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NEW DELHI.

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LOK SABHA

Thursday, 12th September, 1957.

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

[MR SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Mr. Speaker: The House will now take up questions Shri Ramaswami.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: No, Sir. There is a question, No. 1722-A but it does not appear in the list I do not know why it is so It should come first.

Shri Narayanankutty Menon: We have not got that question.

Mr Speaker: Has not a slip been attached to the list?

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Today, this list has been placed on the Table Our list does not contain that question

Mr. Speaker: The hon Member may read that question

Creation of a Post of an Additional Secretary

†

*1722-A. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:**
Shri P. L. Barupal:
Shri Raghunath Singh:
Shri Bibhuti Mishra:

Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to an article under the caption "The Political Scene" in Delhi edition of *the Statesman* of the 1st June, 1957 wherein it has been mentioned that the post of an Additional Secretary was created and approved in the record time of 36 hours; and

(b) what are the facts about the matter?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Shri Raghuramaiah): (a) Yes.

(b) The post of the Additional Secretary was created and an officer appointed to the post in accordance with the normal procedure in regard to such appointments.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know whether consultation was had with the Home Ministry and whether it is a fact that the very same officer was twice rejected for promotion as Joint Secretary?

Shri Raghuramaiah: I may mention that this appointment was approved by the Appointments Committee which consists of the Home Minister also. Whether this officer has been rejected before, I have no information but I may say that he is a senior officer belonging to Audit and Accounts Service

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: As the Deputy Minister mentioned that this officer belongs to the Audit Department, is it a fact that the very same officer was deputed to enquire into the jeep scandal in 1953-54 and whether he had given a clean bill that those jeeps were purchased in the proper way?

Shri Raghuramaiah: The information that I have on this matter is that after there was some sort of a condemnation in certain quarters about these jeeps, the officer happened to inspect those very jeeps and he found those which he inspected to be in good order and he wrote about it.

Shri Raghunath Singh: How many officers were superceded by this appointment?

The Minister of Finance (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): May I answer that question? The officer who was appointed as Additional Secretary is a very senior officer and he belongs to the Audit and Accounts Service occupying a high position in Defence Audit. There is no question of supercession because by comparable senority there are a number of people who are junior to him occupying positions of Additional Secretaries or even Secretaries. So, the question of supercession does not come in because a number of persons who are acting as Secretaries and who are comparable to him are juniors. The Finance Ministry had agreed to the appointment and it went up to the Appointment Committee which is composed of the concerned Minister, the Home Minister and the Prime Minister and it was approved there. So, the procedure is perfectly regular and there is nothing irregular about it.

Shri Narayanankutty Menon: What is the difference between the grade of this particular officer in the original post and the present post and what is the present salary drawn after promotion?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: So far as his salary is concerned, while he is categorised as Additional Secretary he draws Rs. 3,000 which is the salary paid to a Joint Secretary. I believe what he was getting in his own grade was the maximum and the maximum that he can go up to before becoming an Accountant-General, Class I, would be Rs. 2,750.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know whether the question of the appointment of that particular officer as Joint Secretary of the Finance Ministry had once arisen and the Finance Ministry itself had rejected that claim?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: That would not be correct because I do remember myself having asked for this officer as the financial adviser for steel plants and the officer was not willing to undertake the job merely because of health considerations.

Foreign Exchange

*1723. **Shri S. V. Ramaswami:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) the extent of irrevocable foreign exchange commitment for the months from September to November, 1957; and

(b) on what account, import of capital goods or otherwise, does this commitment arise?

The Minister of Finance (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) and (b) I believe what the Hon'ble Member wants to know is the extent of foreign exchange payments falling due during September—November, 1957 against past commitments. Since the volume of payments depends on the actual utilisation of licences, which in turn depends on a number of unpredictable factors, it is not possible to say in advance what the payment and its composition will be during a particular period.

Shri S. V. Ramaswami: Is there no machinery of the Government either in the Finance Ministry or in the Reserve Bank or in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry to make an intelligent anticipation of the probable demands in advance?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: We make anticipations of our tied commitments. I can tell my hon. friend that the tied commitments that we have between now and 1960 will be of the order of about Rs. 990 crores. But the exact payments as and when they will arise,—that is not something which is possible to predict with any precision. Normally, we can say that it would be of this order but it is of no use because it could not be quoted against me or against any particular department.

Shri Dasappa: Is it for both the private and the public sectors?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: The figure I mentioned is for both the public and the private sectors.

Shri R. Ramanathan Chettiar: How much of the foreign exchange relates to the dollar area?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I have said that I am unable to give a precise figure unless it be about Rs. 990 crores. That, I mentioned, I had to work out.

Shri Tyabji: Is any Budget made for the utilisation of our foreign exchange resources?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Yes, Sir. We have had it done periodically; normally it is done twice a year and we make a proforma balance of payments chart. But, now that our foreign exchange position is what it is, it is being done almost every month.

Shri S. V. Ramaswami: Is it in the contemplation of the Government, as the position is so critical, to make an assessment beforehand and make an intelligent anticipation of our requirements, month by month?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I have said that it is physically impossible to say whether a particular payment will fall due this month unless it is payment for a particular contract and that contract is going to be fulfilled on a particular date. We can only make it over half year periods. As I have said, I have given a picture of what it is for the entire period of 2½ years.

Dr. Sushila Nayar: May I ask a question?

Mr. Speaker: I have explained the position to the hon. Members. I will give the person who tables the question the last opportunity as if it were a resolution. If hon. Members get up after that, they only embarrass me.

Madras-Andhra Border Dispute

*172 **Shri B. S. Murthy:**
Shri Rajagopala Rao:
Shri M. V. Krishna Rao:
Shri N. R. Munisamy:

Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether replies from the Chief Ministers of Andhra and Madras States on Pataskar Report have been received;

(b) whether a copy of Pataskar Report will be laid on the Table;

(c) the number of meetings Shri H V. Pataskar had with the Madras and Andhra States representatives to resolve the border dispute;

(d) the criteria adopted for inclusion of a village or Taluq in one State or the other;

(e) whether any memoranda have been received by Government against the inclusion of some villages in one State or the other; and

(f) if so, the action taken in the matter?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) Yes, some communications have been received but final replies are still awaited.

(b) Yes, but at a later date.

(c) Shri Pataskar met the representatives of the two States on several occasions.

(d) Government is not in a position to give definite information in this regard

(e) Yes.

(f) They were referred to Shri Pataskar.

Shri B. S. Murthy: May I know whether Shri Pataskar was asked once again to go into the matter as far as further complaints of inclusion or exclusion are concerned?

Shri Datar: Such a reference is made more or less for the purpose of clarification.

Shri Ranga: May I know whether the Mysore Government has made any representation?

Shri Datar: At present I am not aware of it.

Shri N. R. Munisamy: May I know whether after getting clarification from the mediator that would be taken as final without the further screening by the sub-committee of the Cabinet as in the case of the S.R.C. Committee?

Shri Datar: In the first place both the parties have to agree, and then the proper course will be taken up.

Shri Heda: May I know how far it is true that the joint proposal from the Chief Ministers of Andhra Pradesh and Madras was to shelve this whole report?

Shri Datar: At this stage, I am sorry, I am not in a position to disclose anything about the report.

Shri Ranga: Is it still possible for the two Governments to come to an agreement between themselves in the light of this report, so that there can be an agreed solution for it?

Shri Datar: It is always open to them to do so

Shri Tangamani: May I know the probable date when the Pataskar's Report and the clarifications are likely to be laid on the Table of the House?

Shri Datar: The probable dates depend upon other persons.

हिमाचल प्रदेश सचिवालय में आग

*१६२५. **श्री भक्त दर्शन :** क्या गृह-कार्य मंत्री २२ जुलाई, १९५७ के तारांकित प्रश्न संख्या २१४ के उत्तर के सम्बन्ध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि हिमाचल प्रदेश सचिवालय में लगी आग का जांच कार्य पूरा करने और आगजनियों को दण्ड देने की दिशा में इस बीच क्या प्रगति हुई है ?

गृह-कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य-मंत्री (श्री दातार) : जांच की रिपोर्ट अभी तक प्राप्त नहीं हुई है और उसकी प्रतीक्षा की जा रही है ।

Some Hon. Members: In English.

Shri Datar: The report on the investigation has not yet been received and is awaited.

श्री भक्त दर्शन : क्या मैं जान सकता हूं कि जब कि आग लगने के तुरन्त बाद ही शिमला के डिस्ट्रिक्ट मजिस्ट्रेट ने इस मामले की जांच कर ली थी तब इस बारे में अब क्यों देरी हो रही है ?

श्री दातार : अभी मैं कुछ भी नहीं कह सकता हूं ।

श्री भक्त दर्शन : क्या मैं जान सकता हूं कि इस आग के लगने से हिमाचल प्रदेश या पंजाब सरकार की कुल कितनी सम्पत्ति की हानि हुई है ?

श्री दातार : कुल हानि १० लाख रुपये की हुई है ।

श्री भक्त दर्शन : क्या गवर्नमेंट के ध्यान में यह बात आई है कि इन रेकार्ड्स के जल जाने की वजह से हिमाचल प्रदेश सरकार को और वहां की जनता को भी बहुत कठिनाइयां उठानी पड़ती हैं और क्या उन सारे रेकार्ड्स को फिर से प्राप्त करने के बारे में कोई कदम उठाया जा रहा है ?

श्री दातार : काफी से अधिक रेकार्ड्स को रिकंस्ट्रक्ट कर लिया गया है ।

Acquisition of Land at Khowai (Tripura)

*1726. **Shri Dasaratha Deb:** Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether attempts are being made to acquire land owned by displaced persons at Khowai (Tripura) near airport;

(b) whether any representation has been made by the affected displaced persons of that particular locality;

(c) if so, what are the grievances; and

(d) what steps have been taken so far to remove them?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) Yes. A preliminary survey was carried out.

(b) Yes.

(c) That they are displaced persons who have taken loan from Government and have pledged the land as security for loan and have built their homesteads.

(d) Action to take acquisition proceedings has been stayed till further examination of the matter

Shri Dasaratha Deb: May I know how many families are likely to be affected if that scheme is implemented, and whether any alternative lands are going to be provided to these families along with the cost of their existing residential quarters?

Shri Datar: The Government requires land for certain offices and the requirements of the offices are under examination. I might tell the House that alternative accommodation would be provided for those persons who would be dispossessed

Shri Dasaratha Deb: May I know whether the value of the existing trees over that land will also be taken into account when the valuation of compensation is determined?

Shri Datar: May I point out to the hon. Member that the houses that have been built have been mortgaged to Government.

Shri Bangshi Thakur: May I know whether it is fact that a few refugees families have been allotted lands by the R/R Directorate under the Bengal Government in Sadar Division, Tripura as a consequence of which those families have been led to fall victims to costly litigation?

Shri Datar: Some of these lands have been given to displaced persons. Now it was found that there was no other space or plot of land available for the construction of certain Government buildings. Then we received certain representations from these displaced persons who were likely to be dispossessed. Therefore, the whole question is under examination.

Foreign Oil Companies

*1727. **Shri Narayanankutty Menon:**
Shri Punnoose:

Will the Minister of **Steel, Mines and Fuel** be pleased to lay a statement showing:

(a) the total gross profits made by the various refining and distributing foreign Oil Companies in India during the year ending 31st December, 1956; and

(b) what is the total amount transferred as profits by them overseas?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) and (b) A statement, giving the available information as furnished by the Oil Companies, is laid on the table of the Lok Sabha. [*See* Appendix V, annexure No. 56]

Shri Narayanankutty Menon: May I know whether the statement that is made in this Statement, that separate gross profits figures are not readily available, means that the Burmah-Shell Oil Storage and Distributing Company and their refineries have not filed their balance-sheets for the year 1956 with the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies?

Sardar Swaran Singh: So far as the Oil Storage and Distributing Company is concerned, they are registered in the United Kingdom, and I am

not sure if they are required under the law to file a balance sheet with the Registrar of Joint Stock Company in India.

Mr. Speaker: Has an enquiry been made with respect to that I remember that on a prior occasion also this question was put. It was said that with respect to other oil companies the information is available but not with respect to this particuar company. When a question is put the Government is expected to make enquiries from all reasonable sources and place the information before the House.

Sardar Swaran Singh: That has been done. That is shown in the statement.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member asked the question whether the balance-sheet and profit and loss accounts are not filed before the Registrar. That enquiry does not appear to have been made.

Sardar Swaran Singh: I do not think that it is really filed with the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies in India.

Shri Narayanankutty Menon: On 24th May, 1957 the hon. Minister for Mines and Oil replied before this House that information regarding profits made by the Burmah-Shell Company was not available at that time and that the Government would furnish the actual figures later on.

Mr. Speaker: They are not able to furnish at all, that is all.

Shri Narayanankutty Menon: In the statement laid on the Table of the House it is shown that the Burmah-Shell Refineries have made a net profit of Rs. 6·32 crores in 1956. May I know what percentage of the total capital invested by the Refineries does this Rs. 6·32 crores of net profit represent?

Sardar Swaran Singh: Sir, I would like to clarify the first part of the complaint that the hon. Member is making. My colleague Shri K. D. Malaviya when he was answering a question on 24th May, 1957 did make a statement that information was available with regard to the Standard Vacuum Oil Company and the Caltex Oil Company, but the same was not available with regard to Burmah-Shell. That information is now available and that has been incorporated in the statement a copy of which has been laid on the Table of the House. So I do not know about what the hon. Member is complaining. All that my colleague said at that time was that the information is not yet available. That information was later on obtained from the Oil Company and that is incorporated in the statement. The filing of the balance-sheet with the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies is not the only source; we can otherwise also get information. We have obtained that information and we have incorported that in the statement. I do not know what the complaint is now.

Shri Narayanankutty Menon: What about an answer to my question?

Mr. Speaker: I think the hon. Member wanted to know the total gross profits. Have those figures been given in the statement?

Shri Narayanankutty Menon: That was not my question. I wanted to know the percentage of total capital investment made by the Burmah-Shell Refineries that is represented by the Rs. 6·32 crores net profit made in 1956.

Sardar Swaran Singh: So far as this Burmah-Shell Refinery Limited is concerned, this is a joint stock company which is incorporated in India and the balance-sheet of this is filed before the Registrar of the Joint Stock Companies. That balance-sheet will be supplied to the library of the House and the hon. Member can study it in detail. According to the claim made by the Burmah-Shell Refinery Limited, the percentage of profit made on the block capital is 11 per cent or so.

Shri Tangamani: From the statement laid on the Table we find that these three companies, both in the Storage and Distribution and in the Refineries have transferred a sum of Rs. 6,27,00,000. May I know whether the Government propose to stop this transfer to foreign countries and request them to invest it in the industries in this country itself?

Sardar Swaran Singh: That is not our intention.

Theft at Central Ordnance Depot, Agra

*1728. **Pandit D. N. Tiwary:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that about 27,000 items of "Reeds Contact B" with a platinum point valued at over Rs. 20,000, are missing from the Central Ordnance Depot at Agra; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to find them out?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Shri Raghuramaiah): (a) Yes Sir; the actual quantity missing is 26,920 Nos. and the value of the store is Rs. 8412·50 np.

(b) The case has been reported to the police and is under investigation by them.

Pandit D. N. Tiwary: May I know whether anybody has been arrested in this connection?

Shri Raghuramaiah: Yes, Sir; four depot employees have been taken into custody in this connection.

Pandit D. N. Tiwary: May I know whether any articles have been recovered as yet?

Shri Raghuramaiah: It does not appear to be covered by the main question. I have no exact information. The investigation is going on.

सेठ अचल सिंह : क्या मंत्री महोदय बतला सकेंगे कि इससे पेश्तर कितनी चोरियां हो चुकी हैं और उन में क्या हो रहा है? कोई जांच वगैरा हो रही है?

Shri Raghuramaiah: Everytime a case of theft is reported, investigations have been ordered, and my information is that with the increased security arrangements we have made, and with the information given to me by the Director of Security Corps, the thefts have been less; they are constanty on the decrease.

Shri Goray: Is there any officer among those who were arrested?

Shri Raghuramaiah: As I said, only four depot employees have been taken into custody; I should imagine they are not officers.

Shri Goray: Are they all Class IV employees?

Shri Raghuramaiah: I have not got that specific information before me.

Mr. Speaker: If they are not officers, they must be either Class III or Class IV people.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: May I know whether any departmental court of enquiry has been instituted?

Shri Raghuramaiah: Yes, Sir. The matter is also under investigation by a staff court of enquiry.

Pay Commission for State Government Employees

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*1729. **Shri Ramakrishna Reddy:**
Shri Sanganna:
Shri Tangamani:
Shri S. M. Banerjee:
Shrimati Parvathi Krishnan:

Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that State Governments have been asked to examine the question of emoluments of their employees;

(b) if so, the reaction of each State Government;

(c) whether it is also a fact that State Governments have approached Union Government to include the emoluments and working condition

of their employees in the terms of reference of the Central Pay Commission appointed recently; and

(d) if so, the action taken thereon?

The Minister of Finance (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) There has been no specific request.

(d) Does not arise.

Shri Ramakrishna Reddy: Recently a delegation from South India came here. Was any assurance given to them?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: No, Sir. No assurance has been given to them, because the question of reference of any State matter to the Pay Commission or any similar body must arise from the State Government. The Central Government cannot give any assurance in that regard.

Shri Ramakrishna Reddy: May I know whether the Andhra Government submitted any report to the Government of India?

Mr. Speaker: How does that arise? Is it a subordinate body to this Government? All right It may be answered.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: As I said, no specific request has come from any Government.

Shri Dasappa: In view of the fact that the hon. Finance Minister himself stated at the time of the discussion of the appointment of the Central Pay Commission that is bound to have a tremendous reaction on the State Government employees, may I know what steps he is proposing to take to meet the contingency that naturally will arise by any kind of revision of the salaries of the Central Government employees?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I do remember having said something to that effect. I never said there will be any tremendous reaction. But so far as I am concerned, the action that has to be taken in this regard must come from the State Governments. They have to take action and if they seek our assistance or advice in any way we can give them such advice or assistance that we are capable of.

Shri Sangama: The hon. Prime Minister is reported to have stated recently that it is the intention of the Government to bring all the non-gazetted State Government officers on a par with the Centre. May I know what policy is Government going to formulate in this respect?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: That would not be a correct representation of whatever the Prime Minister has said. I think the Prime Minister said that he is generally in sympathy with the demands made by those people, but the question of meeting them is different matter altogether.

Shrimati Parvathi Krishnan: The hon. Minister said just now that the Prime Minister said he was generally in sympathy with those people. May I know whether after the deputation has met the Prime Minister, the memorandum submitted by them in regard to the case put forward by them has been forwaded to the State Governments and their opinions asked for?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I do not think that was done nor is it a proper thing to do. The people who saw the Prime Minister have also approached the State Governments. It is for the State Governments to take action in this matter.

Shri Tangamani: May I know whether any of the State Governments have appointed similar Pay Commissions; and I would like to have an answer to this before I put the next question arising out of this.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member cannot bargain with me. It may be answered.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Not that I know of.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: At the time of the Pay Commission debate, it was

said that the Central Government had every sympathy with the provincial Governments. May I know whether the hon. Minister is aware that about 60,000 employees of the Bihar Government wanted to go on strike and may I know whether the Bihar Government have asked for any subsidy from the Centre for raising the pay standards of those employees?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: The State Governments ask for subsidy for many things. I do not recollect having seen any letter from the Bihar Government for this particular purpose.

Shri Ranga: Is it the policy of the Government to have uniform pay-scales all over India, whether the people are employed in the States or in the Union Government? Has this question even been discussed in any meeting of the Finance Minister and the financial significance of it estimated?

Shri T. T Krishnamachari: The question of having a uniform policy and a decision in that regard can only apply to those people who are employed in the Central Governments. It is not possible for the Central Government to tell every State Government that they should have a uniform pay-scale, because, then the Central Government must find the money for that purpose. We have discussed this question several times in the National Development Council and as a result of our discussion last year, I think some relief was given to the non-gazetted officers in certan States and to teachers, because the Central Government agreed to share a portion of the burden that the State Governments would be incurring as a result of these discussions. There is a forum for discussing these matters, where the interaction of forces caused by some action taken by this Government or the State Governments on the rest of India is discussed. I cannot say at the present moment whether there is any definite policy which has been decided upon and which has been accepted by all State Governments.

Several Hon. Members *rose*—

Mr. Speaker: Let the local Governments and the Assemblies take up this matter. We have done enough for ourselves. It is not a unitary State unless they want to make one.

Mechanical Methods of Cleaning Latrines

*1730-A. **Shri B. C. Mullick:** Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to refer to item 9 on page 146 of the Report of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes 1955 Part II and state the action taken by Central Government to introduce mechanical and up-to-date methods of cleaning latrines, sewers, drains etc., throughout India in order to abolish the practice of cleaning by human hands?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shrimati Alva): The matter primarily concerns the State Governments The Government of India duly brought to the notice of the State Governments the recommendations (one of which related to this matter) of the "Scavengers' Living Conditions' Enquiry Committee, State of Bombay" for appropriate action on 24th September, 1955. The State Governments were again addressed on 10th October 1956 to introduce mechanical and up-to-date methods. The State Governments were also informed on 22-12-56 that financial assistance to the extent of 50% would be given by the Government of India to municipalities and local bodies for supplying wheel barrows or handcarts to each sweeper for doing the scavenging work. Schemes in this respect have been called for from the State Governments

Shri B. C. Mullick: May I know whether the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes recommended to the Central Government to stop immediately the

system of carrying nightsoil on heads in baskets?

Shrimati Alva: Recommendations have been made in the report of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for 1955, but I am not aware of the statement that my hon. friend has made.

Shri B. C. Mullick: May I know why one particular community, namely, the Scheduled Castes is bound to perform this particular job of scavenging which creates always an idea of high castes and low castes?

Mr. Speaker: He need not go into the question. Everybody is agreed that nobody ought to do this.

Shri B. S. Murthy: The question is this: whether any steps have been taken, besides merely sending a recommendation. That is the purpose of the question.

Mr. Speaker: Has any step been taken by the Central Government?

Shrimati Alva: No, Sir. We have asked the States to implement this and we have got replies from some States that they are doing so.

Mr. Speaker: Question No. 1730 is renumebred as 1763. Shri Sanganna.

Shri Sanganna: 1731.

Buildings at Dundas Point, Nicobar Islands

*1763. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:**
Shri S. C. Samanta:
Sardar A. S. Saigal:

Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that several buildings at Dundas Point (Port Blair) were recently sold to a monopoly firm of Nicobar Islands;

(b) if so, what were the recorded value of those buildings;

(c) at what price they were sold to the monopoly firm;

(d) whether it is also true that three plots of land at Dundas Point measuring several acres have also been given to that monopoly firm free of cost; and

(e) if so, for what purpose?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shrimati Alva): (a) Nine old and dilapidated buildings at Dundas Point were sold to M/s. Akoojee Jadwet & Co., who do not hold any monopoly for trade in Nicobar Islands.

(b) & (c). Although the recorded book value of these buildings was Rs. 40,115/- the P.W.D. assessed their market value at Rs. 2,990/-. They were sold for Rs. 3,200/-.

(d) Three plots of land measuring about 8 acres were allotted to M/s. Akoojee Jadwet & Co., on usual terms under the Andaman & Nicobar Islands (Land Tenure) Regulation, 1926.

(e) For setting up an oil mill.

Shri Sanganna: I am not concerned with the answer that has just now been read out.

Sardar A. S. Saigal: I want to put a supplementary on this answer.

Mr. Speaker: 1730 has not been called. It has been renumbered as 1763.

An Hon. Member: But the reply has been given.

Mr. Speaker: I did not ask for the reply to be given. 1730 has not been called. It has been struck off in my copy here and renumbered as Starred Question No. 1763. I understand that this has been done because he cannot have too many questions in the same round. I passed over this question and called Shri Sanganna. He just told me that he is not concerned with it. Why did he not say "1731"?

Shrimati A Kale: He said "1731".

Mr. Speaker: If he said it, why did the hon. Deputy Minister answer? Shri Sanganna.

Elementary Education in Tribal and Scheduled Areas

*1731. **Shri Sanganna:** Will the Minister of **Education and Scientific Research** be pleased to state:

(a) the special steps that have been taken by the Union Government to fulfil the directive given in Article 45 of the Constitution within the next ten to fifteen years in the field of elementary education in the Tribal and Scheduled areas in the different States;

(b) whether any educational survey has been undertaken to find out the causes of the slow rate of progress in these areas; and

(c) if so, with what results?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Education and Scientific Research (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): (a) The Government of India have been giving grants for the welfare schemes of the tribals which includes educational facilities in the form of stipends, scholarships, supply of stationery, exemption from tuition fees, erection of school buildings, establishment of Ashram Schools etc.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Shri Sanganna: In view of the fact that the present system of education introduced in the tribal areas is not suitable to the uplift of the *adivasis*, may I know what steps are going to be taken by the Government to change the present system of education in tribal areas?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: Some of the institutions which are being started are considered to be very suitable for the tribal areas, these ashram schools, for example. I do not agree with the hon. Member's suggestion.

Shri Sanganna: What is the percentage of literacy among the people in the scheduled areas and tribal areas of the country?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: I do not have the figures, but it must be very low.

Shri Ranga: May I know what has been the experience of the Government in having a sufficient number of suitable teachers for these special schools in the hills and other places where the tribal people are living? Is there any special effort being made to train the tribal people themselves as teachers?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: I should like to have notice of that question. But I may say that educated people among the tribals are eligible for appointment as teachers also.

Shri Ranga: It is not enough.

Shri Jaipal Singh: Are Government satisfied that elementary education is being imparted in the mother tongue?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: In most of the States, the policy of the Government is that education at the elementary stage should be imparted through the mother tongue. If the hon. Member wants to know about any specific State, I shall have to ask for notice.

Shri Jaipal Singh: I want the information in respect of all the Scheduled areas.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member will put an unstarred question.

Population Commission

*1732. **Shri Naldurgker:** Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission have emphasized the need for family limitation and suggested the appointment of a Population Commission; and

(b) if so, whether Government will consider the necessity of appointing the above Commission to assess the population problem in all its aspects?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) and (b). The Commission in the First Five-Year Plan

suggested the desirability of setting up a Population Commission at a suitable date to assess the population problem. However, in pursuance of the views expressed on family planning in the Chapter on Health in the Second Five-Year Plan, a high power Family Planning Board has been set up to direct family planning programmes.

Shri Narayanankutty Menon: It has been reported in the Press that the hon Minister of Defence, who is also a member of the Planning Commission, said in Bombay that he was opposed to any sort of family planning whatsoever and that report has not so far been contradicted. May I know whether the views expressed by the Planning Commission has been changed?

Shri Datar: It is for the Health Ministry to consider that question.

Shri Dasappa: May I know by what ratio it is proposed to bring down this growth of population in the coming years? May I know whether the Government have got any target to achieve?

Shri Datar: I may point out to the hon. Member that the Health Ministry have appointed a board in this respect and it is for that board to consider that matter; then at a later stage, we shall come into the picture for appointing a Population Commission.

Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman: May I know whether there has been any inspection of the various family planning centres by the Union Government or this board?

Shri Datar: I would again request the hon. Member to address the question to the Health Ministry.

Loans and Grants to Annamalai University

*1733. **Shri Kanakasabai:** Will the Minister of **Education and Scientific Research** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Annamalai University has applied for a loan and a grant for building hostels for students; and

(b) if so, the amount sanctioned so far by Government?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Education and Scientific Research (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No decision has been taken on these requests so far.

Andaman Education Board

*1734. **Sardar A. S. Saigal:** Will the Minister of **Education and Scientific Research** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that it has been finally decided to affiliate the Andaman Educational Board to the Central Board of Education, Ajmer; and

(b) if so, from what date?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Education and Scientific Research (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) From 1960.

सरदार अ० सिंह सहगल : क्या मैं जान सकता हूं कि अंडमान ऐजूकेशन बोर्ड ने किन सिद्धान्तों पर अजमेर बोर्ड में शामिल होने का फैसला किया है और क्या उसने ऐसा वहां की जनता की राय के मुताबिक किया है ?

डा० का० ला० श्रीमाली : सिद्धान्त यह था कि चूंकि अजमेर बोर्ड का पुनर्संगठन किया गया है इस लिये अगर उसका उससे सम्बन्ध रहेगा तो ज्यादा लाभदायक होगा ।

श्री रघुनाथ सिंह : उससे क्या लाभ होगा यह तो समझ में नहीं आता । कलकत्ता वहां के बिल्कुल पास है उससे एफिलियेशन हो सकता था, मद्रास पास है उससे हो सकता था, अजमेर से क्यों एफिलियेशन किया गया ?

डा० का० ला० श्रीमाली : अजमेर में बोर्ड आफ सैकिंडरी एजूकेशन है जिसमें

यह कोशिश की जा रही है कि शिक्षा के क्षेत्र में जो नये सुधार हुये हैं उनके अनुसार परीक्षा भी जाये । इसलिये यह ख्याल किया गया कि इस स्कूल का अगर अजमेर बोर्ड से सम्बन्ध रहेगा तो इसके लिये ज्यादा लाभदायक होगा । इसलिये यह फैसला किया गया ।

Shrimati Parvathi Krishnan: In answer to an earlier question, the hon. Minister stated that the policy is that education should be imparted in the mother tongue. In view of that, may I know whether there has been any representation from the people in the Andamans that education should be imparted there in the various schools in the mother tongue of the population there? May I also know whether there is any proposal to affiliate the Educational Board to universities other than Ajmer?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: The proposal is that the schools should be affiliated to the Ajmer Board from 1960. As regards the question of medium of instruction, as I said, it is the policy of the Government to impart education at the elementary stage through the mother tongue. I think Hindi and Urdu are the languages of most of the people.

सरदार अ० सिंह सच्चर : क्या यह सच है कि भारत सरकार ने और खास कर एजूकेशन बोर्ड ने यह राय दी कि इसको अजमेर बोर्ड के साथ एफिलियेट किया जाय ?

डा० का० ला० श्रीमाली : जो कमेटी थी, उसने कोई सिफ़ारिश नहीं की थी, लेकिन सरकार इस मामले पर बहुत देर से विचार कर रही थी और अन्तिम फैसला यही है कि इसका अजमेर बोर्ड से सम्बन्ध हो ।

Shri Tangamani: Is it not true that more than 50 per cent of the people residing in Andamans are Tamil-speaking people?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: People from all parts of India have gone to Andaman and Nicobar islands. So, it is very difficult to say from which part the majority of the people have come. I cannot give the exact figures.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: They are Bengalis and Tamilians.

Mr. Speaker: This information can be obtained from the census figures.

Teachers in Middle and High Schools in Manipur

*1735. **Shri L. Achaw Singh:** Will the Minister of **Education and Scientific Research** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a great shortage of teachers in Government Middle and High Schools in the tribal areas of Manipur;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government propose to grant the teachers in Manipur special hill allowance as is the case in certain hill districts of Assam?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Education and Scientific Research (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The matter is under consideration.

Shri L. Achaw Singh: Is the Government aware of the fact that teachers would not like to go to the hills without any extra allowance and there are complaints from some parts of the hills that there has been inadequate staff in the middle and high schools?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: I have not quite followed the question. If the hon. Member is referring to the question of hill allowance, I would like to inform him that the matter is under consideration of the Government.

Shri Ranga: Am I to take it that this matter is under consideration, not only in regard to those particular tribal areas, but for tribal areas as a whole?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: At present the matter is under consideration in regard to Manipur. The other larger question will also be examined.

Shri B. K. Gaikwad: How long will it take for the Government to decide this matter?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: Shortly.

Mr. Speaker: Both sections of the House must be satisfied with the question and answer: "How long will it take to decide the matter?" "Shortly"!

Assistants in Central Secretariat Service

*1735-A. **Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:** Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was a provision in the initial constitution of the Assistants' grade to the effect that those of the Non-Test Category Assistants who were not confirmed were to be placed in the Regular Temporary Establishment of Assistants;

(b) if so, whether they have been placed in Regular Temporary Establishment;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) under what provision lady Assistants, political sufferers and other individuals have been given preferential treatment regardless of their qualifications and efficiency over Non-Test Category Assistants confirmed or included in Regular Temporary Establishment; and

(e) whether the Law Ministry was consulted in the matter?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) Yes.

(b) All persons in the Non-Test Category except 67 have been appointed to the Regular Temporary Establishment.

(c) and (d). All the persons in the Non-Test Category could not be included in the Regular Temporary Establishment in view of the fact that certain other categories of temporary Assistants who had put in long years of service and who but for their inclusion in the Regular Temporary Establishment would not have been able to continue in the grade of Assistants had also to be accommodated in the Regular Temporary Establishment as 'hard cases'. The categories of persons who were thus made eligible for inclusion in the Regular Temporary Establishment included *inter alia* some lady Assistants and political sufferers.

(e) Yes.

An Hon. Member: The hon. Minister is not audible.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Minister can turn this side and reply.

Shri Datar: I was turning that side for getting more light.

Shri Harish Chandar Mathur: May I invite the attention of the hon. Minister to a specific provision in the initial constitution that the remaining persons are Non-Test....

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Members are expected to put questions extempore and not read supplementary questions.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: I am reading some constitution. I am referring to the constitution of the R.T.E. I have got to read two lines from a part of the constitution. That I cannot do extempore. May I invite the attention of the hon. Minister to the specific provision in the constitution, which reads....

Mr. Speaker: This is not a question at all. The hon. Member may put a question. Why should he read a quotation. Hon. Members forget that this is Question Hour and not an hour for discussion of a resolution or any such thing

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: I am not saying anything about any resolution.

Mr. Speaker: Therefore, the hon. Member ought not to read a quotation.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: Without my mentioning a specific provision in the constitution, how can he know which provision I am referring to? Without knowing the provision how can he say whether the provision has been followed and, if not what are the reasons for not following it? They have made a specific provision, that these people must be...

Mr. Speaker: He need not say all these things. He can simply ask why this provision was not followed.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: How will he know which provision?

Mr. Speaker: He must know.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: That is why I have to say which provision I am referring to and that provision has not been adhered to.

Mr. Speaker: He need not read out the clause. He can say: clause so and so, sub-clause so and so

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: There is no clause or sub-clause. May I know why this specific provision of the constitution has been violated?

Shri Datar: May I make it clear that the constitution that the hon. Member has referred to is not the Constitution of India but certain instructions which had been issued for the purpose of establishment and implementation of Regular Temporary Establishment, nothing more than that, and that instructions have been complied with and when it was found that there were certain difficulties, other categories of Government servants had to be taken. But I can assure the hon. Member that so far as the 67 persons are concerned, their cases will be taken into account.

Neiveli Lignite Project

*1736. **Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount spent upto the end of July, 1957 on Neiveli Lignite Project; and

(b) how many open cast mines are likely to be opened by the end of 1957?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) The amount spent on the Neiveli Lignite Project upto the end of July, 1957 is about Rs. 8·2 crores.

(b) Stripping of the over-burden in the area selected for mining is in progress. Regular mining of lignite is expected about the year 1960.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: It was originally estimated to spend about Rs. 16·5 crores on lignite project only. May I know whehter this estimate will hold good or is it likely to be revised?

Sardar Swaran Singh: I think the amount that has already been spent is sufficient reply to the question which the hon. Member has put. Now, it is an integrated project. The method of mining also has changed and lignite is utilized in a variety of ways. That entails a much higher order of expenditure.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: We have already spent 50 per cent of the amount In view of that, may I know whether we will be able to attain the target of 3·5 million tons by 1961?

Sardar Swaran Singh: The mining part of the integrated lignite project envisages the mining of 3·5 million tons of lignite per annum at an estimated cost of Rs. 16·9 crores.

Shri P. C. Bose: May I know whether the lignite deposit is a continuous seam or there are breaks here and there?

Sardar Swaran Singh: I think in the area where the first mine cut has been started, below that there is sufficiently continuous seam of lignited.

Devaluation of Pound Sterling

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*1737. { **Shri Raghunath Singh:** **Shri B. S. Murthy:**

Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that pound sterling of U. K. is going to be devalued; and

(b) if so, what will be its effect on Indian currency?

The Minister of Finance (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) and (b). We have no information on this subject beyond what appears in the newspapers.

Shri Raghunath Singh: Suppose the pound is devalued, how will it affect our foreign exchange?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I say there is no question of any devaluation because we have no precise information on that subject and on a hypothetical basis it is not worthwhile considering how it will affect our position.

Shri Ranga: May we have an assurance that the exchange value of the rupee to the pound sterling and the dollar will be maintained more or less independently, whatever might be the fortune of the pound sterling?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Again my hon. friend is asking me to project myself into a future about which we do not know much. But I don't think it is proper for me to say now that we will hold on to a particular value. Of course, the value of the rupee is fixed in terms of gold.

Shri B. S. Murthy: In view of the information contained in the paper, may I know whether the Government has made any attempt to find out whether there is any likelihood of the pound being devalued?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: We have to watch the position and it happens that August is a bad month for sterling. Usually every year the position of the sterling in August weakens. It may be that; it may be something more; it may be something less. I do not think it is really our business to determine what will happen. As it looks today it does not seem that they will be forced to devalue, but it is a matter for them, not for us.

Shri Ranga: Is it not a fact that on an earlier occasion after we had achieved our freedom, when Dr. Matthai was the occupant of the chair of my hon. friend, as soon as they devalued their pound sterling the rupee value was also immediately changed, while Pakistan pursued another line with the result that there was political as well as economic confusion and India lost.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: These are matters of history and I do not think I am called upon to express an opinion on it.

Shri Sadhan Gupta: In view of the fact that there is considerable apprehension in the United Kingdom expressed by economists and the Press about the future of the pound sterling and in view of the fact that the only remedy the Conservative Government can think of is a wage freeze which labour is determined not only to resist but to keep on pressing forward their demand for a wage increase if prices rise in the United Kingdom, has the Government made any assessment of the probable danger to our currency if the pound sterling is devalued or loses its value in the world money market?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: By making that question an elaborate one and dealing with the opinions expressed by some persons perhaps in England and other places, my hon. friend has merely stated the question as it has already been put; have I done anything to foresee a contingency of that sort happening? I do not think at the present moment I am called upon to do anything of the nature.

Shri R. Ramanathan Chettiar: In view of the fact that our country is a member of the Commonwealth and

our currency is linked with sterling on occasions when the Chancellor of Exchequer in the United Kingdom takes a decision to devalue, is it the normal procedure for him to consult the Finance Ministers in the Commonwealth beforehand?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Normally the Chancellor of Exchequer writes to Commonwealth Finance Ministers, particularly to members of the sterling area once a month and tells them of the position of the sterling and generally about the position of the sterling area. I suppose if any change is contemplated the courtesy of passing on the information would be extended.

Records of Pre-transfer of Power Period

*1738. **Shri H. N. Mukerjee:** Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) what has been the fate of records and documents, which, till the transfer of power in 1947, were in the custody of the different Residencies and/or of the then Political Department of the Government of India;

(b) whether it is a fact that a large part of them was deliberately destroyed before the finalisation of the transfer of power;

(c) whether records containing references to the internal affairs of the then States were handed over, on the transfer of power to the U. K. High Commissioner in India; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and whether the said records will be called back from the U. K. Government?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) to (d). Before the transfer of power, some of the records of the old Political Department at Headquarters were destroyed and others taken away to the office of the High Commissioner for the United Kingdom in India. Similar action was taken regarding the records in the Residencies and Political Agencies. Whatever records remained in these offices were in due course transferred to the National Archives of India. This seems to have been done in pursuance of an agreement reached between the two main party leaders under the auspices of the Viceroy. Government are at this stage unable to state the reasons for adoption of such a procedure. Efforts were made to obtain some of the records back from the British Government but without success.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: May I know if it is a fact that on the eve of the transfer of power in 1947 there had been an agreement between the then Viceroy and leaders of the Congress Party and the Muslim League in regard to the weeding out of certain of the records referred to in the question and the despatch of certain others to the United Kingdom High Commission?

Shri Datar: There was a meeting between the Viceroy and the party leaders on the 13th June 1947 and certain agreed decisions were arrived at.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: In view of the accepted international usage that this country as the successor State is entitled to all the records which previously belonged to the British Indian administration, are we pursuing every effort to see to it that these records which used to be in the Residencies or the Political Department of the Government of India are returned to us as soon as possible?

Shri Datar: We have pursued this matter to the extent that it is possible and might pursue it even now. But what can be done in respect of records that have already been destroyed?

Shri S. C. Samanta: Is it not a fact that on the eve of transfer of power the Director of Archives submitted to the then Governor-General that many of the records taken from the Archives had not been returned? Afterwards it was said that they had been transferred to London and included in the library there.

Shri Datar: To some extent what the hon. Member has stated is true. It came to the notice of Government after the transfer of power that certain documents had not been given

over; nor had they been deposited in the National Archives. That is the reason why the matter was taken up with the United Kingdom Government as the answer says.

Shri Gajendra Prasad Sinha: What were the reasons advanced by the British Government for not returning the files which are already available with them?

Shri Datar: They have put a particular interpretation upon this agreement. They stated that they would be the sole judges to decide what further records would be made accessible to the then Dominion Government of India.

Shri R. Ramanathan Chettiar: May I know whether the matter of records is linked with the question of the Imperial Library over which we have a dispute with Pakistan and over which we have not been able to come to a settlement with the Government in the United Kingdom?

Shri Datar: I believe the two questions are separate, though they are being dealt with together.

Primary Classes in Delhi Schools

*1739. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of **Education and Scientific Research** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in a number of recognised schools in Delhi and New Delhi the primary class students are provided with tented accommodation;

(b) if so, their number; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take to remove such a disparity in certain schools where only primary class children are accommodated in tents?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Education and Scientific Research (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): (a) Yes, Sir.

I resume the reference is to privately managed and recognised schools.

(b) 55.

(c) There is no such disparity in primary and middle schools. Wherever tented accommodation has been provided, students both of primary and middle Departments are seated in tents.

Mr. Speaker: Shri Sharma.

The hon. Member is hidden by Shri G. P. Sinha who stood in front of him.

Hon. Members do not appreciate my difficulty. There are five hundred Members here and I am not able to fix up who is in which place, because there is a constant change of Members from place to place. Therefore, I would request all hon. Members to put their questions when I call them. They should stand up and call their numbers loudly in which case they will certainly catch my eye. Otherwise I have to spend the time looking again and again and spend a minute or so. Somehow, while putting questions they suddenly reduce their voice.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know how long it will take the Government to have buildings for these schools? Has any programme been drawn up?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: During this year Government propose to put up 22 school buildings, but that will not solve the problem. I expect it will take some years before we can provide proper buildings for all the institutions which are at present working in tents.

Shri D. C. Sharma: What is the number of students that are being taught in this tented accommodation?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: I do not know the exact number, but I believe several thousands.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: In view of the fact that such a shocking state of affairs exists and this is the only big city which has this type of tent schools, do Government propose to take any steps? Are Government aware that many of the schools have schools funds, but because of certain difficulties in procurement of material, etc., they are unable to put up buildings? Will Government see that these

are given first priority in the building schemes of Delhi?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: Yes, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: The Question Hour is over.

Sardar A. S. Saigal: May I request you, Sir, kindly to allow supplementaries on question No. 1730 which has already been answered by the Deputy Minister himself?

Mr. Speaker: No.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Auction of Smuggled Goods

*1740. **Shri V. P. Nayar:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to refer to the reply to the debate on the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry on the 21st August, 1957 and state:

(a) the total realisations in the first six months of 1957 from the auction of smuggled consumer goods seized by Government; and

(b) the quantity of lip-sticks, hair oils, and cigarette lighters proposed to be taken for Government use in 1957 instead of being auctioned?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri B. R. Bhagat): (a) The total realisations in the first six months of 1957 from the auction of smuggled goods seized by the Customs was Rs. 4,36,915.

(b) Nil, Sir.

Blast Furnace Slag

*1714. **Shri Ghosal:**
Shri B. Das Gupta:

Will the Minister of **Steel, Mines and Fuel** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of India requested the Steel factories to modify their process for having the opportunity to utilise the blast furnace slag for the manufacture of cement; and

(b) if so, who have responded to this request and agreed to the proposal?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) and (b). No, Sir. Blast furnaces are for making pig iron primarily for steel production. The design of the blast furnaces and the processes employed can therefore have only one objective and that is to produce the most suitable pig iron at the minimum cost. If during the course of production of pig iron, the slag which comes out of the blast furnace is suitable for manufacture of cement, granulation plants could be installed. In the three Government steel plants which are now under construction, there is provision in the layout for a granulation plant. As soon as the sources of limestone are determined and it is clear that slag would be suitable for the manufacture of cement, granulation plants will be installed.

हिमाचल प्रदेश में स्कूल

*१७४२. **श्री पदम देव :** क्या शिक्षा और वैज्ञानिक गवेषणा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या उन्हें इस बात का पता है कि यद्यपि हिमाचल प्रदेश में पर्याप्त स्कूल खोले गये है तथापि इस इलाके के विस्तार और उसकी विकटता के कारण कई स्थानों में प्रारम्भिक शिक्षा की भी सुविधायें नहीं है ;

(ख) क्या उन्हें इस बात का भी पता है कि काफी बड़े क्षेत्र में मिडिल तक की शिक्षा की कोई व्यवस्था नही है ; और

(ग) इस प्रदेश की इन कठिनाइयों को दूर करने के लिये क्या सरकार का कुछ प्राइमरी और मिडिल स्कूल खोलने का विचार है ?

शिक्षा और वैज्ञानिक गवेषणा मंत्रालय में राज्य-मंत्री (डा० का० ला० श्रीमाली) : (क) से (ग). जी, हां ।

Scholarships to Scheduled Caste Students

*1744. **Shri Balkrishna Wasnik:** Will the Minister of **Education and Scientific Research** be pleased to lay a statement on the Table showing:

(a) the number of Scheduled Caste students, who were not given scholarships in past five years (yearwise);

(b) the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether there has been any lapse of amount sanctioned for the award of scholarships to the Scheduled Caste students during the period mentioned above?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Education and Scientific Research (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

STATEMENT

(a)

1952-53	....	461
1953-54	....	606
1954-55	....	1,220
1955-56	....	2,175
1956-57	....	3,434

(b) The reasons were mainly as under:—

(i) Failure in the last annual examination;

(ii) Failure to join a recognised institution for an approved course of study.

(iii) Ineligible on account of means test.

(iv) Failure to complete their applications in spite of reminders.

(c) No.

Rice for Jammu and Kashmir State

*1745. **Shri Yajnik:** Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of subsidies given on the purchase and sale of foodgrains especially rice which was during the last three years imported into the State of Jammu and Kashmir and sold there to the civilian and military personnel; and

(b) the amount of subsidy that has been given during the last three years on buying foodgrains and especially rice stock within the State of Jammu and Kashmir and which was sold in that State to the civilian and military personnel?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home affairs (Shri Datar): (a) and (b).

1953-54	—	Rs. 110 lakhs.
1954-55	—	Rs. 150 lakhs.
1955-56	—	Under consideration.

The subsidy is given in respect of rice imported into the State for civilian consumption only. No subsidy is paid on rice procured in the State.

Evening Colleges for Workers

*1746. **Shri Abdul Salam:** Will the Minister of **Education and Scientific Research** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Punjab University (Camp) College Enquiry Committee has recommended for the establishment of four evening colleges to provide higher educational facilities for the working people; and

(b) if so, the action proposed to be taken thereon?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Education and Scientific Research (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The matter is being considered in consultation with the parties concerned.

International Book Fair, Frankfurt

*1747. **Shri R. Narayanaswamy:** Will the Minister of **Education and Scientific Research** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have arranged to send their selected publications and their representative to the

International Book Fair, Frankfurt, Germany;

(b) whether they have requested the Indian Publishers and Booksellers also to send their selected published Books to the fair; and

(c) if so, the number of books and the representatives to be sent?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Education and Scientific Research (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes

*1748. **Shri B. C. Kamble:**
Shri Siddiah:
Shri D. A. Katti:
Shri B. K. Gaikwad:

Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1104 on the 23rd August, 1957 and state:

(a) the criteria adopted by Government for declaring Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes as such under the Constitution of India; and

(b) the authority from the official documents on the strength of which reply to (a) above is given?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shrimati Alva): (a) The criteria for the specification of Scheduled Castes are that they should not only be backward educationally and economically but should also be subject to tangible social disabilities based on the custom of untouchability. The criteria for the specification of Scheduled Tribes are their general backwardness, lack of acculturisation with the rest of the community, distinctive way of life, culture, etc.

(b) (i) The Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order, 1950, (ii) the Constitution (Scheduled Castes) (Part C States) Order, 1951; (iii) the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order, 1950; (iv) the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) (Part C States) Order, 1951 and (v) The Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Orders (Amendment) Act, 1956.

Delegations of Scientists

*1749. **Shri Subodh Hasda:** Will the Minister of **Education and Scientific Research** be pleased to state:

(a) the procedure adopted by Government in particular for the selection of Members of Delegation of Scientists to International Science Organisation and in general to foreign countries;

(b) whether any roster or panel of names of top-ranking scientists in this country is maintained by Government from which the selections are made;

(c) if so, whether copies of such a roster or panel of names will be made available to the Members of Parliament; and

(d) whether members of such delegation are selected from the Central Government and State Government Scientific Institutions or from the Universities and non-official Institutions also?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Education and Scientific Research (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): (a) to (d). A statement giving the required information is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha [*See* Appendix V, annexure No. 57]

Hindustan Steel Ltd. and Hewitt Ribns Insec.

*1750. **Shri R. S. Lal:** Will the Minister of **Steel, Mines and Fuel** be pleased to lay a statement on the Table showing the terms of agreement between Hindustan Steel Ltd., and the American firm Hewitt Robins Insc. for supply of ore moving machinery on deferred payment?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): Messrs. Hewitt Robins, have been selected as the contractors for the supply, erection and putting into Commission of a material handling system at the Barsua iron ore mine for the Rourkela Steel Plant, No formal agreement has

been executed so far, as the detailed terms and conditions are still under consideration.

Credit Control

*1751. { Shri Bibhuti Mishra: Shri Shree Narayan Das:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of advances given by the Reserve Bank to different banks in 1956-57 for the purchase of food grains;

(b) the precise measures that Government have adopted so far and have decided to adopt immediately for the proper regulation and control of credit to prevent speculation, hoarding of essential goods, and to check inflationary trends in the country;

(c) whether measures so far adopted have borne any fruits; and

(d) if so, the extent of objectives attained?

The Minister of Finance (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) The Reserve Bank does not give advances to banks for purchase of foodgrains; it grants accommodation to scheduled banks against Government securities and it rediscounts eligible usance bills under the Bill Market Scheme.

(b) In pursuance of Government's credit policy, the Reserve Bank has, besides raising the Bank rate from 3½ to 4 per cent as from May 16, 1957, issued, from time to time, directives to banks to regulate their advances against foodgrains and other essential commodities in the manner indicated. These advances have been coming down, though the advances against foodgrains are still above the levels prescribed. Further action will be taken as required for attaining the objectives in view.

(c) and (d). There has been some softening of foodgrains prices lately, but it is too early yet to venture on a definitive judgment.

Committee on Customs Procedure and Organisation

*1752. **Shri N. R. Munisamy:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased state:

(a) whether the Committee to enquire into Customs procedures and organisations has submitted its report; and

(b) if so, what are its recommendations?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri B. R. Bhagat): (a) No, sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Oil Drilling in Cauvery Delta

*1753. **Shri Elayaperumal:** Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state whether Government propose to have drilling operations in the Cauvery river bed for petroleum?

The Minister of Mines and Oil (Shri K. D. Malaviya): There is no such proposal at present.

तेल व प्राकृतिक गैस आयोग

*१७४५. श्री मो न स्वरूप क्या इस्पात खान और इंधन मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सत्य है कि तेल व प्राकृतिक गैस आयोग के लग भग १२५ अधिकारी और ६०० सदस्य आसाम, राजस्थान, गंगा घाटी व पजाब मे आगामी शीत-ऋतु मे तेल के लिय सर्वेक्षण करेंगे ; और

(ख) यदि हा, तो प्रस्तावित सर्वेक्षण के कार्यक्रम आदि का ब्यौरा क्या है है ?

खान और तेल मन्त्री (श्री के० डे० मालवीय): (क) जी हां ।

(ख) आवश्यक जानकारियों से युक्त विवरण पत्र सभा पटल पर रखा जाता है । [देखिये परिशिष्ट ५, अनुबन्ध संख्या ५८]

Bihar-U.P. Boundary Dispute

*1755. **Shri Radhamohan Singh:** Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the question of fixing a permanent inter-state boundary between Ballia in U.P. and Shahabad in Bihar has been finally agreed to by the two States; and

(b) If so, the steps proposed to be taken to enforce this agreement?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) and (b). The question is under consideration.

I.A.S. Emergency Recruitment

*1756. **Shri Ajit Singh:** Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether recruitment from State Civil Services to I.A.S. under Emergency Recruitment Scheme 1956 is regarded as promotion or general selection;

(b) whether 16 per cent vacancies were reserved for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes; and

(c) If not, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) Promotion.

(b) and (c). The recruitment being by promotion the question does not arise.

Relief Measures in Naga Hills

*1757. **Shri Hynniewta:** Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that relief measures adopted by the Assam Government in the Naga Hills under special grants from the Centre have to be approved by the Home Ministry;

(b) the nature of those relief measures; and

(c) the years for which the special grants for such measures were made available to the State Government of Assam?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) No.

(b) The State Government have introduced a number of relief measures such as the supply of foodstaffs, blankets, medical aid, cash compensation, and gratuitous relief.

(c) 1957-58.

Eminent Teachers and Scientists

*1758. **Shri Vishwanath Prasad:** Will the Minister of **Education and Scientific Research** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the directories of eminent teachers and scientists in India were under compilation last year;

(b) if so, when the work will be completed; and

(c) whether Government will avail the services, if necessary, of the persons from among them for this purpose?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Education and Scientific Research (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): (a) A directory of eminent teachers was under compilation.

(b) No firm date can be given at present

(c) Yes.

Scholarship to Scheduled Castes and Tribes Students

*1759. **Dr. Sushila Nayar:** Will the Minister of **Education and Scientific Research** be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of money spent on scholarships and on assistance given for buying books to boys and girls of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes during the financial year 1956-57, separately;

(b) whether scholarships are disbursed at the begining of the academic year or at the end;

(c) whether Government have received reports that several students are forced to leave their studies because of the late receipt of scholarship money; and

(d) if so, the number of students, if any, so affected and the measures proposed to be taken to rectify the situation?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Education and Scientific Research (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

STATEMENT

(a) The amount of scholarship in each case, includes a reasonable amount for the purchase of books. The expenditure incurred on the scholarships to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes scholars, during the financial year 1956-57, was as under:—

Scheduled Castes....Rs. 87,98,891/-
Scheduled Tribes....Rs. 15,77,850/-

Total:— Rs. 103.76,741/-

(b) Ad hoc grants sent to the institutions, are paid for a period of four months to the eligible Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes candidates, at the commencement of the academic session. The rest of the scholarships money is paid during the course of the academic session.

(c) No.

(d) Does not arise.

Indian Air Force Accidents

*1760. **Shri Braj Raj Singh:**
Shri Yadav:
Shri Bhadauria:

Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Indian Air Force planes involved in accidents and crashes during the last 12 months and the number of casualties in such accidents; and

(b) whether Government intends to institute an enquiry into the causes of Air Force Plane crashes in view of their large number?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Shri Raghuramaiah): (a) It is not in the public interest to give out this information.

(b) A Court of Inquiry is held in every case of major accident to investigate the causes and, where possible, to suggest remedial action to prevent such accidents in future. The rate of accidents has shown a steady decrease during the last few years.

Andhra University Teachers

*1761. **Shri Nagi Reddy:**
Shri Ramam:

Will the Minister of **Education and Scientific Research** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have granted any money so far to increase the scales of pay of the Andhra University teachers as per the recommendations of the University Grants Commission;

(b) whether the recommendation has been implemented by the Andhra University in the years 1956-57 and 1957-58 (so far); and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Education and Scientific Research (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): (a) University Grants Commission is itself competent to sanction grants to Universities and has paid grants to Andhra University for improvement of scales of pay of its teachers.

(b) The University has accepted the recommendations of the Commission regarding revision of the salary scales of University teachers under the Second Five Year Plan and action is being taken by the University to pay the salaries in accordance with the recommendations for the year 1956-57. The grant for the year 1957-58 for this purpose will be paid to the University before the close of the current financial year.

(c) Does not arise.

ऋण

*१७६१-क **श्री सुशवन्त राय** : क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) कुछ समय पूर्व सरकार द्वारा जारी किये गये १०० करोड रुपये के ऋण में कितनी राशि जमा हुई ;

(ख) उसमे से कितनी राशि पुराने ऋणों के बदले में जमा हुई ;

(ग) उपरोक्त ऋण में निम्नलिखित संस्थाओं द्वारा कितनी–कितनी धन राशि जमा की गई :

(१) भारत का रिजर्व बैंक ;

(२) भारत का राज्य बैंक ;

(३) जीवन बीमा निगम ;

(४) सरकार के नियंत्रण के अधीन अन्य सस्थाओं की निधियां जैसे भविष्य निधि आदि ;

(घ) उपरोक्त ऋण में जन साधारण द्वारा कितनी धन राशि जमा की गई ; और

(ङ) जिस प्रकार से ऋण में धन राशि जमा हुई है क्या उसे सरकार सन्तोषजनक समझती है ?

वित्त मंत्री (श्री ति० त० कृष्णमाचारी): (क) १०५.६७ करोड़ रुपये;

(ख) स्पष्ट है कि माननीय सदस्य का संकेत परिवर्तन के रूप मे प्राप्त राशि की ओर है । यदि यह सत्य है तो पुराने ऋणों के परिवर्तन से जमा होने वाली राशियों का विवरण इस प्रकार है:—

	करोड़ रुपये
३ प्रतिशत विजय ऋण १९५७	६.८०
३ प्रतिशत ऋण १९५८	३५.१९
जोड़	४४.९९

(ग) और (घ). विभिन्न दलों द्वारा जमा करायी गयी राशियों का विवरण देना लोक हित की दृष्टि से उपयुक्त न होगा ।

(ङ) सरकार के विचार से परिणाम असन्तोषजनक नही है ।

Customs Building in Cochin

*1762. **Shri Narayanankutty Menon**: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) the total cost of construction of new Customs building in the Willingdon Island, Cochin;

(b) whether Government are aware that a wide crack has appeared on one part of the building from the foundation to the roof; and

(c) if so, whether Government have inquired as to why this crack has appeared and who is responsible for that?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri B. R. Bhagat): (a) The total cost of construction of this building is Rs. 6,13,000/-

(b) No wide crack has appeared in this building.

(c) Does not arise.

गजेटियरों में संशोधन

*१७६४. **श्री भक्त दर्शन** : क्या शिक्षा और वैज्ञानिक गवेषणा मंत्री १२ दिसम्बर, १९५६ के तारांकित प्रश्न संख्या १८८३ के उत्तर के सम्बन्ध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) गजेटियरों में संशोधन करने के लिये नियुक्त विशेषज्ञ समिति द्वारा प्रस्तुत रिपोर्ट मे की गई सिफारिशें कार्यान्वित करने की दिशा में इस बीच क्या प्रगति हुई है ;

(ख) इस कार्य के लिये अब तक कुल कितनी धनराशि स्वीकृत की गई है ; और

(ग) यह कार्य कब तक पूरा हो जाने की संभावना है ?

शिक्षा और वैज्ञानिक गवेषणा मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (डा० का० ला० श्रीमाली): (क) से (ग) एक विवरण सभा पटल पर रख दिया गया है। [देखिये परिशिष्ट ५, अनुबन्ध सं० ५६]

Nagas

*1765. **Shri B. S. Murthy:** Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to sate:

(a) whether any of the Nagas who surrendered offered their services to help establishing law and order in the Naga Hills area;

(b) if so, the number of them; and

(c) the conditions on which such services were offered?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) to (c). Several such persons offered their services unconditionally. The number of those who surrendered is considerable but it is difficult to give the exact figure.

Metallurgical Coal

*1766. **Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** Will the Minister of **Steel, Mines and Fuel** be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of metallurgical Coal supplied to the Railways during 1st January to 31st July, 1957; and

(b) the steps taken to reduce the use of this coal in locomotives?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) About 1.99 million tons of metallurgical coal were supplied to Railways during the period 1st January to 30th April 1957.

Figures after April are not available.

(b) The Second Five Year Plan provides for the progressive replacement of coking coals by non-coking coals for use in locomotives. Production of non-coking coal of higher grades is being increased suitably. A systamatic replacement is expected to commence from the middle of 1956.

Income Tax on Race-goers

*1767. **Shri H. N. Mukerjee:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the alleged evasion of income tax on a fairly large scale by collusive methods practised by book-makers and wealthy punters at race meetings in Calcutta, Bombay, Madras, Poona and Bangalore; and

(b) what steps are being taken at present to ensure maximum collection of income tax on racegoers' earnings?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri B. R. Bhagat): (a) A few cases of collusive transactions between assessees, who are wealthy punters, and book-makers have come to the notice of the Department.

(b) Race winnings of the majority of punters are not assessed as they are only casual receipts. However, transactions of a collusive nature, put through with the intention of defrauding revenue, are fully investigated.

Coke-Oven Gas

*1768. **Shri Ghosal:**
Shri B. Das Gupta:

Will the Minister of **Steel, Mines and Fuel** be pleased to state:

(a) what is the quantity of coke-oven gas required for the Durgapur Steel Plant; and

(b) what steps have been taken to supply the same?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) About 38 million cub. ft. per day.

(b) Coke-Oven gas will be available as a by-product in the process of

manufacture of coke out of coal, in the coke-ovens of the Steel Plant itself.

Recruitment of Engineers

*1768-A. **Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:** Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state what steps, if any, have been taken by Government to recruit youngmen for service while they are actually studying in Engineering and Technical Institutions?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): Government have not taken any such step.

Nagas

*1769. **Shri D. C. Sharma:**
Shri H. N. Mukerjee:
Shri Panigrahi:
Shri L. Achaw Singh:
Shri Raghunath Singh:

Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether he is aware of the fact that the Nagas met at Kohima on the 22nd August, 1957 to evolve an agreed formula to end the longstanding political impasse: and

(b) if so, whether the Government of India have received a copy of the proceedings of their Conference?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) Yes.

(b) No, but some reports of the proceedings have been received.

Deligation of Indian Scientists to U.S.S.R.

*1770. **Shri Subodh Hasda:** Will the Minister of **Education and Scientific Research** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Short Notice Question No. 13 on the 31st May, 1957 and state:

(a) whether the Delegation of Indian Scientists has left for Russia; and

(b) if not, the reasons for not sending the Delegation?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Education and Scientific Research (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): (a) and (b). A statement giving the required information is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [*See* Appendix V, annexure No. 60.]

Removal of Untouchability

*1771. **Shri B. C. Kamble:** Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 209 on the 24th May, 1957 and lay a statement on the Table showing:

(a) the amount spent by the Government of Bombay out of the allocation made for the purpose of removal of untouchability during 1956-57;

(b) the items on which it was spent; and

(c) the results achieved thereof?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shrimati Alva): (a) to (c).* The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha as soon as received.

Report of Public Services (Qualifications for Recruitment) Committee

*1772. **Shri R. S. Lal:** Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state the decision of the Government on the report of Public Services (Qualification for Recruitment) Committee?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): The recommendations of the Public Services (Qualifications for Recruitment) Committee are under examination and no decisions have so far been taken on them

Remission of Sentences

*1772-A. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have remitted the sentences of any prisoners

convicted by court-martial on the occasion of the Centenary Celebrations of 1857 Movement; and

(b) If so, in how many cases?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Shri Raghuramaiah): (a) Yes.

(b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the Lok Sabha.

Durgapur Steel Plant

*1773. **Shri Ghosal:**
Shri B. Das Gupta:

Will the Minister of **Steel, Mines and Fuel** be pleased to state:

(a) the steps Government have taken to supply lime-stone flux to Durgapur Steel Plant;

(b) whether it is available in any nearby district of West Bengal; and

(c) if so, whether any arrangement has been made by Government to utilise it?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) During the first few years of production lime-stone will be supplied to the Durgapur Steel Project from Birmitrapur and Hathibari in Orissa. Investigations to locate lime-stone in some nearer sources of supply have been undertaken.

(b) and (c). It has been recently reported that the Government of West Bengal have located deposits of lime-stone in Purulia District. It appears that lime-stone available from these deposits may not be suitable for fluxing purposes.

दिल्ली में बम विस्फोट

*१७७४. **श्री भक्त दर्शन** : क्या गृह-कार्य मंत्री १७ जुलाई १९५७ के तारांकित प्रश्न संख्या ९५ के उत्तर के सम्बन्ध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) गत वर्ष दिल्ली में हुए बम विस्फोटों के बारे में जो जांच की जा रही थी उस सम्बन्ध में इस बीच क्या प्रगति हुई है; और

(ख) हाल के बम विस्फोटों के सम्बन्ध में क्या कार्यवाही की गई है ?

गृह-कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री दातार): (क) जांच-पड़ताल अभी जारी है ।

(ख) हाल ही में दिल्ली में कोई बम विस्फोट नहीं हुए हैं ।

Neo-Buddhists

*1775. **Shri B. C. Kamble:**
Shri D. A. Katti:
Shri Siva Raj:
Shri Maney:
Shri Goray:

Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have issued any instructions or directions to the Government of Bombay about the concessions to be granted to the Buddhist converts; and

(b) if so, what are these?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shrimati Alva): (a) and (b). The view of the Government of India in the matter was communicated to the States in a circular letter addressed to them in May last. This letter was on the lines that have already been stated more than once on the floor of the House namely that while the members of scheduled castes after conversion to Buddhism are not entitled to the facilities provided under the Constitution specified for scheduled castes but so long as the converts are educationally and economically backward, the same concessions as are normally available to other backward classes should also be available to them.

Rehabilitation of ex-Convicts

*1776. **Shri Subodh Hasda**: Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of India have sponsored

a scheme for the rehabilitation of the ex-convicts;

(b) if so, how many after-care homes will be established and at which places during 1957-58; and

(c) whether orphans, destitutes, infirm other than ex-convicts will find place in these homes?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shrimati Alva): (a) No scheme as such has been sponsored by the Government of India. However, a limited provision for training in suitable trades and crafts to ex-convicts has been made under the After-care programmes of Social Welfare Schemes during the Second Five Year Plan.

(b) Two After-care Homes for ex-convicts, one for men and other for women, with separate sections for young persons between the ages of 16 and 21, will be established in each State during the plan period A few such Homes will also be established in the Union territories where required. The actual location of these Homes is to be determined by the State Government Administration concerned.

(c) No.

Ellora Caves

1573. Shri Pangarkar: Will the Minister of **Education and Scientific Research** be pleased to state:

(a) the amount spent on the maintenance of the Ellora caves during 1956-57; and

(b) the amount proposed to be spent during 1957-58?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Education and Scientific Research (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): (a) Rs. 41,297.

(b) Rs. 35,000.

First Five Year Plan Outlay

1574. Shri Yajnik: Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state the separate amounts received from taxation and from the surpluses of Railways both aggregating to Rs. 752 crores, for financing the Plan outlay of Rs. 1960 crores during the first plan period, as mentioned on page (35) of the Review of the First Five Year Plan?

The Minister of Finance (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): The figure of Rs. 752 crores is made up of about Rs. 120 crores on account of the contribution of Railways and about Rs.632 crores on account of balances from the current revenues of the Centre and States

It may be noted that the plan outlay figures of Rs. 1960 crores and the sources of financing indicated on page 35 of the Review of the First Five Year Plan are an estimate of what the Planning Commission considers to be the likely actuals over the first plan period. The actuals for 1951-55 and the revised estimates for 1955-56 both in respect of plan outlay and its financing are indicated in Appendix I on p. 39 of the "Review of the First Five Year Plan."

Consumption of Liquor in Delhi

1575. Shri Radhamohan Singh: Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the consumption of liquor has increased lately in Delhi?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): No, Sir. On the other hand, according to the information available with Government, there has been decrease of consumption both in foreign as well as country liquor. The decrease in the consumption of country liquor has not been very substantial in view of the fact that its strength has also been reduced from 80 U.P. to 50 U.P.

Prohibition in Union Territories

1576. Shri Radhamohan Singh: Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any scheme of extending prohibition in the territories governed by the Union Government other than Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) to (c). A statement showing the various measures adopted for enforcing Prohibition in the Union Territories other than Delhi is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [*See* Appendix V. annexure No. 61.]

Voters in Naga Hills District

1577. Shri Hynniewta: Will the Minister of Law be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of voters in Naga Hills District for the 1951-52 and 1957 General Elections;

(b) whether there was any fresh enumeration of voters before the last election in Naga Hills;

(c) the number of Nagas in the Naga Hills who took part in the last Parliamentary elections;

(d) the number of polling stations in the Naga Hills and the average number of voters per polling centre; and

(e) the number of days before the polling date when the electoral rolls for the Naga Hills District were made available to the candidates for Lok Sabha?

The Minister of Law (Shri A. K. Sen): (a) to (e). Information is not available and will be laid on the table of the Lok Sabha in due course.

Assistant Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes

1578. Shri Hynniewta: Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the appointment of Assistant Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for Assam, Manipur and Tripura, has been made without the consent of the Union Public Service Commission. and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shrimati Alva): (a) No, Sir. The Union Public Service Commission have concurred in the arrangements made in the post.

(b) Does not arise

Scholarships to Tribal Students

1579. Shri Hynniewta: Will the Miniser of **Education** and **Scientific** Minister of **Education and Scientific**

(a) the total amount of money given as scholarships to the tribal students of the tribal areas of Assam since the attainment of Independence year-wise;

(b) the number of such tribal students receiving technical scholarships and the amount spent on them during the above period; and

(c) whether Government propose to extend scholarships to Primary and Secondary stage of education?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Education and Scientific Research (Dr. K. L Shrimali): (a) and (b). Area-wise statistics of the scholarships awarded are not maintained and therefore the requisite information cannot be supplied.

(c) No, Sir.

Nagas

1580. Shri Hynniewta: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) since when the army was called to suppress the Naga hostile activities; and

(b) the percentage of the Naga Hills District cleaned of hostile activities?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) The army was called in aid of civil power on the 2nd April, 1956.

(b) It is not possible to make such an estimation.

Negotiating Machinery

1581. Shri S. M. Banerjee: Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that problems confronting the defence employees are regularly discussed in Negotiating machinery meetings at top level; and

(b) if so, the number of meetings held from the day it was set up?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Shri Raghuramaiah). (a) Yes.

(b) Seven

Dismissal and Discharge of Employees on Disciplinary Grounds

1582. Shri S. M. Banerjee: Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state the total number of employees in the various Defence insallations discharged or dismissed on disciplinary grounds during the year 1947 to 1956?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Shri Raghuramaiah): The information is being collected and a statement will be laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

Manufacture of Oil Expellers

1583. Shri S. M. Banerjee: Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether Oil Expellers are being manufactured in Gun and Carriage Factory, Jabalpur; and

(b) if not, the reasons thereof?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Shri Raghuramaiah): (a) Not at present, Sir.

(b) No orders are forthcoming for the manufacture of Oil Expellers, although the factory is in a position to manufacture, and has, in fact, in the past, manufactured them.

Civil Items Manufactured in Ordnance Factories

1584. Shri S. M. Banerjee: Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to lay a statement on the Table showing:

(a) the number and names of the civil items manufactured in Ordnance Factories and the price for each item;

(b) whether all these items are still being manufactured; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Shri Raghuramaiah): (a) A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [*See* Appendix V. annexure No 62.]

(b) Items are manufactured according to the orders that are received or likely to be received.

(c) Does not arise.

Military Constructions at Harni

1584-A. Shri Assar: Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have ordered the pulling down of the Military constructions at Harni in Baroda District, Bombay State, these being no longer of any use;

(b) whether it is a fact that some applications have been made by herdsmen that they would like to avail of these constructions for themselves as also the grounds adjacent as pasture lands for their cattle and that they would pay the necessary price;

(c) whether Government have considered their applications; and

(d) if so, the decision taken thereon?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Shri Raghuramaiah): (a) Orders have been issued for the disposal of the assets at Harni Camp, Baroda District.

(b) No. In any case not during the last two years.

(c) and (d). Do not arise.

गुलाब की खेती

१५८५. **श्री विभूति मिश्र** क्या **शिक्षा और वैज्ञानिक गवेषणा** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार ने द्वितीय पंचवर्षीय योजना के अन्तर्गत गुलाब की खेती की उन्नति के सम्बन्ध में कोई गवेषणा की है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या उस गवेषणा के आधार पर कोई योजना तैयार की गई है;

(ग) यदि हां, तो वह योजना कब कार्यान्वित की जायेगी;

(घ) उस के परिणामस्वरूप गुलाब की कितनी अधिक पैदावार होगी; और

(ङ) उस से कितनी आय होने की सम्भावना है ?

शिक्षा और वैज्ञानिक गवेषण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (डा० का० ला० श्रीमाली): (क) जी नहीं । फिर भी, वैज्ञानिक तथा औद्योगिक अनुसन्धान परिषद् की गुलाब तेल उद्योग योजना को उन्नत करने के अन्तर्गत राष्ट्रीय वनस्पति उद्यान, लखनऊ में गुलाब के बाग लगाने, तथा खाद के सम्बन्ध मे कुछ अनुसन्धान किये जा रहे हैं ।

(ख) जी नही । केवल गुलाब की खेती को उन्नत करने के सम्बन्ध मे कोई अनुसंधानिक योजना नहीं बनाई गई ।

(ग) से (ङ) प्रश्न ही नही उठता ।

Iron Mine in Phulbani District, Orissa

1586. Shri B. C. Prodhan: Will the Minister of **Steel, Mines and Fuel** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India are aware that there is an Iron mine at Khinjar village in Phulbani District, Orissa State; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereto?

The Minister of Mines and Oil (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) So far as Government is aware of, there is no iron mine in this area.

(b) Does not arise.

Central Detective Training School

1587. Shri Shivananjappa: Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 368 on the 30th July, 1957 and state:

(a) whether a Central Detective Training School has since been set up in Calcutta;

(b) if so, how many trainees are there at present State-wise;

(c) the annual expenditure thereof; and

(d) whether the State Government also bear expense of the School?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home affairs (Shri Datar): (a) Yes.

(b) The School has not yet admitted any trainees. It will, however, start doing so in the near future.

(c) About Rs. 2,34,000/-.

(d) No.

Southern Zonal Council

1588. Shri B. S. Murthy: Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Sub-committee appointed at the recent meeting of the Southern Zonal Council to examine the question of shortage of personnel, has started functioning;

(b) the subject entrusted to it for examination; and

(c) the probable cost of expenditure for the project?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) Action to form the Committee is

being taken in consultation with the States Governments concerned.

(b) The Committe will examine the question of Man-power planning for the Zone.

(c) No cost is likely to be incurred on the Committee.

कुतुब मीनार में बिजली लगाना

१५८९. **श्री भक्त दर्शन :** क्या **शिक्षा और वैज्ञानिक गवेषणा** मन्त्री २२ जुलाई, १९५७ के तारांकित प्रश्न संख्या २१३ के उत्तर के सम्बन्ध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या कुतुब मीनार मे बिजली लगाने का काम इस बीच पूरा हो चुका है;

(ख) यदि नही, तो विलम्ब के क्या कारण है; और

(ग) इस कार्य के कब तक पूरा हो जाने की आशा है ?

शिक्षा और वैज्ञानिक गवेषणा मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (डा० का० ला० श्रीमाली) : (क) जी, नही ।

(ख) और (ग). प्रयोजना के लिये आयोजना और प्राक्कलन तैयार करने हुए केन्द्रीय सरकारी निर्माण विभाग को बिजली की बत्तियो को सुन्दरता के साथ सजाने और स्मारक की सुरक्षा आदि विभिन्न विषयों पर पुरातत्व विभाग की कुशल सलाह पर निरन्तर ध्यान देना पडा। इन को अन्तिम रूप दिया जा चुका है और उस दिन केन्द्रीय सरकारी निर्माण विभाग इस कार्य को अपने हाथ मे लेगा, उस से तीन महीने के अन्दर अन्दर यह कार्य समाप्त हो जायेगा ।

Employment in Private Forms

1590. Shri Shree Narayan Das: Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 543 on the 8th August, 1957 and state:

(a) whether any case of failure on the part of Officers to obtain prior permission for appointment of their relatives in private firms has been detected; and

(b) if so, the way in which such Officers were dealt with?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) No case has so far come to the notice of this Ministry.

(b) Does not arise.

Loans to Travancore Titanium Products Ltd.

1591. { Shri Narayanankutty Menon / Shri Punnoose:

Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Industrial Finance Corporation had given a loan of Rs 36,00,000 to the Travancore Titanium Products Ltd., at Trivendrum in Kerala State; and

(b) if so, for what purpose the loan had been granted and whether the loan has been utilised for the purpose for which it had been granted?

The Minister of Finance (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) and (b). The Industrial Finance Corporation of India sanctioned a loan of Rs. 15 lakhs to the Company in 1953 for repayment of existing liabilities and for working capital to restart production of Titanium di-oxide. The loan was utilised for these purposes. An additional loan of Rs 36 lakhs was sanctioned to the company in January, 1957 to implement the scheme for:—

(i) doubling their present output of Titanium di-oxide from 1800 tons per annum to 3600 tons per annum; and

(ii) installation of a plant to manufacture sulphuric acid and to produce treated grade of 'Anatase' of 'Rutile' pigment.

The loan transaction in respect of this additional loan has not yet been finalised.

Production Units for the Rescued

1592. Shri R. S. Lal: Will the Minister of **Education and Scientific Research** be pleased to state the details

of the production units to be established by Central Social Welfare Board for (i) rescued women (ii) boys and girls discharged from correctional institutions (iii) for disabled and blind men and women.

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Education and Scientific Research (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): A statement giving the requisite information is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha [*See* Appendix V, annexure No. 63.]

Development of Colonies for Scheduled Tribes in Nilgiri and Kodiakkanal

1593. Shri Balakrishna: Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether a scheme for the development of colonies for Scheduled Tribes in Nilgiris and Kodiakkanal hills in Madras State has been chalked out by the Government; and

(b) if so, the details of the scheme?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shrimati Alva): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha

Post-Matric Merit Scholarships to Andaman Students

1594. Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Will the Minister of **Education and Scientific Research** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of students of the Andaman Islands who were awarded scholarships in 1956-57 under the Central Post-Matric Merit Scholarship scheme; and

(b) how many students of pre-matric classes received the benefit of the Central Scholarship Scheme during the said period?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Education and Scientific Research (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): (a) Nil.

(b) Nil.

Cranes for Steel Works

1595. Sardar A. S. Saigal: Will the Minister of **Steel, Mines and Fuel** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that special cranes for steel works at Bhilai Steel Plant and for the Hindustan Steel Ltd. are required immediately;

(b) when the cranes will arrive and from where;

(c) whether any orders have been placed to build special type of British built crane;

(d) whether it is a fact that large quantity of articles for Hindustan Steel Ltd and Bhilai Steel Plant are lying in Calcutta and Vizagapatnam Ports; and

(e) the arrangements Government have made to bring them to the respective sites of the steel plants?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) to (c) It is not clear what special cranes are refrred to. A number of special cranes are used in steel works. Those are part of the plant and equipment ordered on the respective countries Cranes for the Steel Works of Rourkela will come from Germany, those for Bhilai will come from the USSR. and cranes for Durgapur will come from the U K It would appear from parts (d) and (e) that the Honourable Member is perhaps referring to special cranes handling consignments at the ports.

(d) and (e). Shipments for the Rurkela Steel Plant arrive generally in Calcutta, those for Bhilai in Vizagapatnam. Some difficulty has been experienced in getting berths, owing to a Congestion in the Ports. Once the stores are unloaded, they are transported fairly quickly to the sites of the steel plants. Considering the volume of shipments it cannot be said that there is any large accumulation of stores lying at either of these ports.

Agriculturists in Andaman Islands

1596. Sardar A. S. Saigal: Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) how many agriculturists of Andamans were given loan out of the total grant of agricultural loan sanctioned in 1955 of one lakh and sixty thousand rupees;

(b) whether there is any provision for granting loans under the Second Five Year Plan to help the agriculturists to increase productions of sugarcane, cotton, coconut and betelnut;

(c) if so, what are the details of the scheme; and

(d) what are the various types of cottage industries initiated in Andamans since the beginning of the Second Five Year Plan and whether these also cover displaced persons' new colonization areas?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shrimati Alva): (a) 135 deserving agriculturists of Andamans were given loan out of Rs. 75,000 (and not Rs. 1.60 lakhs), sanctioned for 1955-56.

(b) and (c). Provision has been made for granting loans to the agriculturists of Andaman & Nicobar Islands to increase productions of sugarcane and coconut, but not for cotton and betelnuts. A scheme for the setting up of an Arecanut Nursery for assisting arecanut cultivation in 100 acres during the plan period, at a cost of Rs. 32,416/- has been sanctioned, but this scheme does not envisage grant of any loans.

(i) A provision of Rs. 5·40 lakhs has been made for grant of interest-free loan to coconut cultivation. Rs. 110/- per acre for the first year and Rs. 80/- per acre for the subsequent years of the Second Plan period. It is proposed to have coconut plantations over 2000 acres of land under this scheme.

(ii) A provision of Rs. 6,000 has been made for grant of interest-free loan to sugarcane cultivators at the rate of Rs. 100/- per acre. It is proposed to have sugarcane cultivation over 60 acres of land under this scheme.

(d) Funds for the development of cottage and small scale industries in Andaman and Nicobar Islands in the Second Five Year Plan have been allocated as follows:

(1) Small scale industries (excluding industrial estates)	..	Rs. 5 lakhs
(2) Handicrafts	..	Rs. 2 lakhs
(3) Village industries	..	Rs. 2 lakhs
(4) General schemes		Rs. 2 lakhs
Total		Rs. 11 lakhs

The All India Handicrafts Board are being approached to depute a representative to the islands to draw up detailed schemes. These schemes will cover also displaced persons in colonisation areas.

Indian Association for Cultivation of Science, Jadavpur

1597. Shri Sadhan Gupta: Will the Minister of **Education and Scientific Research** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any representation has been received on behalf of the employees of the Indian Association for Cultivation of Science, Jadavpur, regarding payment of house rent allowance and city allowance to them; and

(b) if so, the decision of Government thereon?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Education and Scientific Research (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): (a) and (b). A statement giving the required information is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [*See* Appendix v annexure No. 64]

Government Servants in Andaman Islands

*1598. **Sardar A. S. Saigal:** Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 33 1/3 per cent (special pay) is given to certain local employees and to all mainland recruits in Andaman Islands;

(b) whether it is a fact that at present all the newly appointed local employees are not given this 33 1/3 per cent (special pay);

(c) if so, the reasons for this unequal treatment; and

(d) the action Government propose to take to remove this unequality?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shrimati Alva): (a) and (b). Yes Sir. The Andaman special pay is given to all the employees recruited from mainland and to such of the local employes who were getting it before January 22, 1951.

(c) As trained and experienced persons are not available locally in the Andamans and as outsiders are also not generally willing to go there, the Andaman special pay is given only to mainland recruits to attract them for service in those far-off Islands.

(d) Does not arise.

Supply of Steel to Manipur

1599. **Shri L. Achaw Singh:** Will the Minister of **Steel, Mines and Fuel** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any separate quota of steel is provided for Manipur;

(b) whether Government are aware of the fact that this housing material is in shortage as compared to the public demand;

(c) if so, what steps Government propose to take in the matter;

(d) whether it is a fact that a procuring agent has been appointed at Calcutta for supply of C. I. sheets for Manipur; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Government are trying to increase indigenous production by expanding the existing production capacity of the Steel Plants in the Private Sector and by installation of three new plants in the Public Sector, as well as by way of imports.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) To procure the stocks allotted to Manipur and to distribute them locally.

Recruitment to All India Services

1600. **Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:** Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have revised their policy and programme in respect of the recruitment and training of All India Services;

(b) what salient changes have been made since Independence;

(c) whether any further changes are under contemplation; and

(d) if so, what is the nature of such changes?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) and (b) The Scheme of recruitment and training adopted since Independence is governed by the relevant rules framed under the All India Services Act and approved by both Houses of Parliament.

(c) and (d). No further specific changes are at present under consideration. An Officer on Special Duty functioning under the Home Ministry is, however, considering all matters relating to recruitment and training of Service personnel. Such

recommendations as this Officer may make with regard to the all-India Services will be considered by Government.

Singareni Collieries

1601. Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Singareni Collieries Company have asked for grant from the Coal Board for undertaking stowing in their mines;

(b) if so, whether it has been sanctioned, and

(c) what is the amount?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) No.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

हिमाचल प्रदेश में पिछड़े वर्गों का कल्याण

१६०२. **श्री नेक राम :** क्या गृह-कार्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) वर्ष १९५७–५८ में हिमाचल प्रदेश में आदिमजाति क्षेत्रों के विकास पर खर्च करने के लिये कितनी धन राशि नियत की गई है;

(ख) वह किन किन मदों पर अब तक खर्च की जा चुकी है; और

(ग) वर्ष १९५७–५८ के बजट में हिमाचल प्रदेश में पिछड़े वर्गों के कल्याण के लिये कितनी धन राशि रखी गई है, किन किन मदों पर वह खर्च की जायेगी, और उस में कितनी धन राशि अब तक खर्च की जा चुकी है ?

गृह-कार्य उप मंत्री (श्रीमती आल्वा) : (क) हिमाचल प्रदेश के चीनी और पंगी क्षेत्रों के विकास के लिये १९५७–५८ में ८.१५ लाख रुपये की रकम नियत की गई है ।

(ख) उपरोक्त रकम में से १९१८.०६ रुपये नीचे दिये गये मदों पर पहली अप्रैल, १९५७ से ३१ जुलाई, १९५७ तक खर्च हुए :—

(१) बेसिक स्कूलों की स्थापना ६४४.१९ रुपये

(२) बाहर के इलाकों में तीन दवाखाने खोलना ८२२.३१ रुपये

(३) प्रोजैक्टर तथा जनरेटर का रख–रखाव ४५१.५६ रुपये

(ग) इस के लिये बजट में ३.५३ लाख रुपये की व्यवस्था की गई थी जो 'शिक्षा', 'पशुपालन', 'चरागाहों की उन्नति', 'पीने के पानी की रसद', 'गृह-निर्माण', 'ग्राम्य विकास में लगी स्वयं सेवक संस्थाओं को सहायता', 'कुटीर उद्योग और कोआपरेटिव संस्थाओं' तथा अन्य विविध योजनाओं पर खर्च की जायेगी । इन पर अभी तक खर्च की गई रकम की सूचना हिमाचल प्रदेश प्रशासन से मंगाई गई है और प्राप्त होते ही वह सभा-पटल पर रख दी जायेगी ।

हिमाचल प्रदेश में आदिम जाति तथा पिछड़े वर्गों के छात्र

१६०३. **श्री नेक राम :** क्या शिक्षा और वैज्ञानिक गवेषणा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या हिमाचल प्रदेश में आदिम जाति क्षेत्रों और पिछड़े वर्गों के छात्रों को छात्र-वृत्तियां दी जाती हैं; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो छात्रवृत्तियों के रूप में कितनी धन-राशि दी गई और इस वर्ष अब तक कितने छात्रों को ये छात्रवृत्तियां दी जा चुकी हैं ?

शिक्षा और वैज्ञानिक गवेषणा मंत्रालय में राज्य-मंत्री (डा० का० ला० श्रीमाली) : (क) और (ख). इस सम्बन्ध में सूचना इकट्ठी की जा रही है और यथाशीघ्र सभा-पटल पर रख दी जायेगी ।

Assistants' Grade Examination

1604. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of candidates who appeared in the Assistants' Grade Examination held in July, 1957;

(b) the number of Scheduled Castes among them;

(c) when the result is expected to be announced; and

(d) the number of posts likely to be filled up on the basis of the result?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) 8,177.

(b) 246.

(c) The results are expected to be announced by the end of this year.

(d) The exact number of persons to be appointed on the result of this examination is being worked out.

Registration with Employment Exchanges

1605. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of Graduates and Post-Graduates have joined service as Lower Division Clerks under the Central Government;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that they are not allowed to get themselves registered with the Employment Exchanges for better jobs; and

(c) if so, the reasons for imposition of such a restriction?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a). Yes.

(b) and (c). This facility is granted only to members of the scheduled castes and the scheduled tribes who are not represented in adequate numbers in higher posts and services. As regards others, it is considered that they should ordinarily seek advancement in the service to which they have been already appointed and that registration with Employment Exchanges, with no specific higher posts in view, would merely have an unsettling effect on the persons concerned and detract from their efficiency. They are, however, permitted to apply for specific posts advertised by the Union Public Service Commission from time to time provided they satisfy the requirements prescribed for the posts.

हिमाचल प्रदेश में आई० ए० एस० पदावली

१६०६. **श्री पद्म देव :** क्या गृह-कार्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) हिमाचल प्रदेश के लिये भारतीय शासन सेवा पदावली के निर्माण के संबंध में नवीनतम स्थिति क्या है; और

(ख) भारतीय प्रशासन सेवा में भर्ती के लिये १९५० में हिमाचल प्रदेश के उम्मीदवारों का जो साक्षात्कार हुआ था, उस का क्या परिणाम निकला ?

गृह-कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य-मंत्री (श्री दातार) : (क) अभी तक कोई अन्तिम निर्णय नहीं किया गया है ।

(ख) १९५० में विशेष भर्ती बोर्ड ने हिमाचल प्रदेश सिविल सर्विस के पांच अधिकारियों का इंटरव्यू लिया । एक को आई० ए० एस० के लिये फौरन ही चुन लिया गया है और दो को पांच वर्ष के अन्दर नियुक्ति के लिये चुना गया बशर्ते कि इस अवधि में आवश्यक स्तर प्राप्त कर लें । ये अधिकारी आई० ए० एस० में नियुक्त नहीं किये जा सके क्योंकि हिमाचल प्रदेश के लिये कोई आई० ए० एस० काडर नहीं था ।

मोटर कार खरीदने के लिये ऋण

१६०७. **श्री बृजराज राय** : क्या गृह-कार्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) दूसरे सामान्य निर्वाचन के बाद कितने मंत्रियों, राज्य-मंत्रियों तथा सचिवों ने मोटर खरीदने के लिये सरकार से कितना-कितना ऋण लिया;

(ख) क्या इन में से कोई ऐसे भी हैं, जिन पर पिछला कुछ ऋण अवशेष था; और

(ग) पिछले पाच वर्षों में इस प्रकार के जो ऋण दिये गये हैं उन में से कितने अभी अवशेष हैं ?

गृह-कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य-मंत्री (श्री बातार) : (क) से (ग). एक विवरण सभा पटल पर रख दिया गया है । [देखिये परिशिष्ट ५, अनुबन्ध संख्या ६५]

Classification of Scheduled Castes

1607-A Shri Siddiah: Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state whether members of the Scheduled Castes who have become Arya-Samajists are considered to be Scheduled Castes?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shrimati Alva): Yes.

Aerodrome of Sulur (Coimbatore)

1608. Shri S. R. Arumugham: Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large scale aerodrome was built and maintained at Sulur in Coimbatore District, Madras State during the last war; and

(b) whether the aerodrome has now been abandoned or is in use?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Shri Raghuramaiah): (a) Yes.

(b) It is in use.

Interim Report of the Backward Classes Commission

1609. Shri B. C. Kamble: Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Backward Classes Commission had submitted an "Interim Report" on the 20th December, 1954 recommending revision of lists of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes; and

(b) the reasons why the Constitutional provisions of Clauses (2) and (3) of Article 340 have not been observed about the report and the memorandum of action taken thereon being laid on the Table?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shrimati Alva): (a) and (b). Yes. The report submitted by the Commission on the 20th December 1954, was an informal document furnished to Government, and it was intended to be made use of only for certain limited purposes connected with the work of the Delimitation Commission. The report, therefore, did not come within the statutory requirement of Clauses (2) and (3) of Article 340 of the Constitution.

Pan Indian Ocean Scientists Conference

1610. Shri Subodh Hasda: Will the Minister of **Education and Scientific Research** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government of India have decided to send a delegation of Scientists to the Conference organised by the Pan Indian Ocean Scientists Association to be held in October, 1957;

(b) if so, the number of Members that have been selected or going to be selected by Government and the names of such members;

(c) the venue of the Conference; and

(d) the amount of expenditure that has to be incurred on the delegation by Government?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Education and Scientific Research (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): (a) to (d) An invitation to participate in the forthcoming Congress of the Pan Indian Ocean Science Association to be held at Tananarive in Madagascar during October-November, 1957 is under consideration. The expenditure involved would depend on the size of the delegation that may be sent.

Harijan Hostels and Boarding Schools

1611. Shri Kumbhar: Will the Minister of **Education and Scientific Research** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Harijan Hostels, Ashrams and Boarding Schools are separately managed by the States and the Union Government uptil now;

(b) whether the non-Harijan students are not taken into the aforesaid institutions;

(c) if so, the State-wise number of such segregated schools etc; and

(d) the reasons therefor?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Education and Scientific Research (Dr. K. L Shrimali): (a) and (b). Harijan Hostels, Ashrams and Boarding Schools have been started in various States and are run under the management of State Governments or the Voluntary Agencies The hostels etc, started under the Centrally Sponsored Programme are also managed by the State Governments or the non-official agencies.

In order to avoid segregation, the policy of the Government is not to start hostels exclusively for a particular Class or Community. In fact, in all the Harijan Hostels, run by the Government or the non-official agencies in receipt of Government assistance, a small number of non-Harijans are also encouraged to take admission.

(c) and (d). Do not arise.

हिमाचल प्रदेश में न्याय आयुक्त

१६१२. **श्री पद्म देव :** क्या गृह-कार्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि हिमाचल प्रदेश के न्याय आयुक्त का कार्यालय शिमला से हटा कर सोलन ले जाया जा रहा है;

(ख) क्या यह भी सच है कि १९४८ में मुख्य आयुक्त के सामने इसी प्रकार का एक सुझाव रखा गया था जो अस्वीकार कर दिया गया था; और

(ग) क्या सरकार हिमाचल प्रदेश प्रशासन को यह कार्यालय हटाने का काम रद्द करने का आदेश देगी जिस से कि इस प्रकार के स्थानान्तरण से उत्पन्न होने वाली कठिनाइयों से लोग बच जायें ?

गृह कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य-मंत्री (श्री दातार) : (क) जी नहीं ।

(ख) जी हां ।

(ग) प्रश्न ही नहीं उठता ।

Grants to Servants of Indian Depressed Classes Society

1613 Shri B. C Kamble: Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state the amount of grants given to the Servants of Indian Depressed Classes Society since 1950 (year-wise)?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shrimati Alva): Only the following grants were given to the Society through the Governments of Delhi and Bombay during the period in question:

1955-56 .. Rs. 25,000 through the Government of Bombay and Rs. 5,000 through the Government of Delhi.

1956-57 .. Rs. 48,000 through the Government of Bombay.

Janata Colleges

1614. Shri S. R. Arumugham: Will the Minister of **Education and Scientific Research** be pleased to lay a statement on the Table showing:

(a) the number of Janata Colleges opened so far in various States in the country, and

(b) how many students have been benefited by these institutions?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Education and Scientific Research (Dr K. L. Shrimali): (a) A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha [See Appendix v, annexure No. 66]

(b) The information is not available.

Excise and Customs Duties

1615. Shri N R Munisamy: Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state the total amount of Excise and Customs duties collected under Provisional Collection of Taxes Act by virtue of declared provisions contained in the Finance (No. 2) Bill, 1957?

The Minister of Finance (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

Industrial Finance Corporation

1616. Shri N. R. Munisamy: Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

(a) how many applications have been rejected by the Industrial Finance Corporation from the 1st April, 1957 upto date and for what reasons and the amount of loans asked for;

(b) the total amount sanctioned from 1st April, 1957 upto date and how much was disbursed; and

(c) what conditions the loanee has to satisfy for eligibility and whether any exceptions have been made so far?

The Minister of Finance (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) Seven applications for loans aggregating Rs. 1,92,50,000 were rejected by the Industrial Finance Corporation of India during the period from 1-4-1957 to 31-8-1957, for the following main reasons:

(i) Under-capitalised structure of the applicant company, and borrowings being disproportionate to paid-up capital.

(ii) Inadequate security for the loan asked for

(iii) The scheme for which the loan is required being unsound.

(iv) Unsatisfactory working of the applicant company

(b) The total amount sanctioned during the period from 1-4-1957 to 31-8-1957, was Rs. 6,15 50 000 out of which a sum of Rs 78 00 000 was disbursed during the said period.

(c) It is laid down in section 2(c) of the Industrial Finance Corporation Act 1948, that to qualify for a loan an industrial concern should be a public limited company or a co-operative society engaged in, or to be engaged in:

(i) Manufacture or processing of goods; or

(ii) generation or distribution of electricity or any other form of power; or

(iii) mining or shipping.

The provisions of the Act quoted above do not admit of any exception being made and none has been made so far.

Housing Corporation *vis-a-vis* Life Insurance Corporation

1617. Shri S. M. Banerjee: Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

(a) the relationship between the Life Insurance Corporation of India and the proposed Housing Corporation of India; and

(b) whether the Life Insurance Corporation of India will consider introducing a new policy covering the

risk of one's life on the lines of other life policies and also enabling the policy holder to get advance money for building or purchasing a house anywhere in India so that low and middle income group people can own a house?

The Minister of Finance (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) and (b). These matters are still in the proposal stage.

Non-Gazetted Staff in Ordnance Factories

1618. Shri S. M. Banerjee: Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the non-gazetted staff in Ordnance Factories are entitled to **rent-free quarters;**

(b) if so, whether this concession is given to both non-industrial and industrial employees; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Shri Raghuramaiah): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) No Sir.

(c) Rent free accommodation is not allowed as a general condition of service but is allowed only in cases where the grant of such a concession is called for by the nature of duties or the scales of pay attached to particular posts. Hence the question of the grant of this concession as a general proposition to all non-industrial and industrial employees does not arise.

Indian Volley-ball Team at Helsinki

1619. { Shri B. S. Murthy: Shri Bhakt Darshan:

Will the Minister of **Education and Scientific Research** be pleased to refer to the reply given to the last supplementary raised on Starred Question No. 1237 on 27th August, 1957 and lay a statement of facts on the Table with regard to the allegation that a lady accompanied the Indian Volley Ball team which participated in the International Sports at Helsinki?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Education and Scientific Research (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): If the Hon. Member is referring to the Olympic Games held at Helsinki in 1952, no Volley ball team from India went there.

Twelve-Year National Plan Certificates

1620. Shri M. C. Jain: Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have introduced new Twelve-Year National Plan Certificates whereunder a certificate of the face value of Rs. 100 on maturity becomes a certificate of the value of Rs. 165, simultaneously abolishing certificates of shorter duration;

(b) whether adjustments in terms of the new rates have been notified for persons holding certificates of shorter periods of maturity; and

(c) if not, the reasons for the delay and by what date the notification is expected?

The Minister of Finance (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) Yes, Sir. The new Certificates are called '12-Year National Plan Savings Certificates.'

(b) and (c). The revised rates apply only to the new Certificates, issued with effect from 1st June, 1957 and, therefore, the question of any adjustment in terms of the new rates in the yield of the Certificates issued prior to that date does not arise.

Naval Ratings and Officers

1621. Shri Warior: Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that certain Naval ratings or officers who were dismissed on account of their participation in the Freedom Movement/ Bombay Naval Mutiny upto the 15th August, 1947, have not been reinstated; and

(b) whether any of them had been refused reinstatement?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Shri Raghuramaiah): (a) As far as

can be ascertained from available records, no Naval ratings or Officers were so dismissed from Naval service. The question of reinstatement of such officers or ratings does not arise. One Naval Officer and five hundred twenty three ratings were removed from service for participation in the Indian Naval Mutiny of February 1946. They have not been reinstated.

(b) Yes. There is, however, no bar to their re-employment under Government in civil employment, except where such dismissal was with disgrace.

War Service Candidates

1622. Shri Jinachandran: Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

(a) how many war service candidates, selected by the Regional Selection Board since 1947, are employed in the category of Class II and Class IV in the Central Excise Department under the Madras Collectorate;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Central Board of Revenue has passed orders for fixing seniority and basic pay for these employees;

(c) if so, whether these orders have been implemented by the Madras Collectorate; and

(d) if not, whether Government will take necessary action to regularise the services of these employees?

The Minister of Finance (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) Class II None Class III 260 Class IV None.

(b) In December 1956, an order was issued that their war service rendered in an equivalent or higher grade may be taken into account for seniority. But no separate order was issued regarding pay as the pay of such candidates is regulated in accordance with the general orders issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs.

(c) and (d). The implementation of the orders regarding seniority is under consideration.

West German Technical Scholarships

1623. Shri Elayaperumal: Will the Minister of **Education and Scientific Research** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any applications so far from Madras State for West German Technical Scholarships; and

(b) if so, their number?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Education and Scientific Research (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 2.

Agricultural College of Annamalai University

1624. Shri Elayaperumal: Will the Minister of **Education and Scientific Research** be pleased to state the amount if any, allotted to the Agricultural College in Annamalai University for the year 1956-57?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Education and Scientific Research (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): Nil.

'Homes' in Madras

1625. Shri Elayaperumal: Will the Minister of **Education and Scientific Research** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Madras Government in consultation with the State Social Welfare Advisory Board has submitted schemes for starting 'Homes' in that State?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Education and Scientific Research (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): Yes, Sir.

Employment of Dumb Adults

1626. Shri Elayaperumal: Will the Minister of **Education and Scientific Research** be pleased to state the number of dumb adults employed so far through the Employment Office, Madras?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Education and Scientific Research (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): None.

Financial Assistance for Libraries and Laboratories in Madras

1627. Shri Elayaperumal: Will the Minister of **Education and Scientific Research** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Madras have applied for any financial assistance for the improvement of Libraries, Laboratories and for the raising of salaries of the Higher Secondary grade teachers during the Second Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the amount allotted for the same; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Education and Scientific Research (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Rs. 12,05,518 have been sanctioned upto 31st August, 1957.

(c) Does not arise.

Sodepur Glass Works

1628. Shri Ghosal: Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any steps have been taken for realising the outstanding loan from the Sodepur Glass Works; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Finance (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) and (b). The transaction relating to the sale of the assets of Sodepur Glass Works Ltd., was completed on the 3rd May, 1957 and the question of enforcing the Deeds of Guarantee and the formalities connected therewith for recovery of the balance of the loan are now engaging the attention of the Industrial Finance Corporation.

Scheduled Caste Employees

1629. Shrimati Shakuntala Devi: Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India have recently issued orders regarding promotion from 15th May, 1957 of a number of Scheduled Caste clerks who were due for promotion as Assistants from much earlier dates;

(b) if so, the number of such persons; and

(c) whether they have been given full service benefits?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) Yes.

(b) 26.

(c) Yes, their initial pay on promotion to Assistants has been fixed at the stage they would have reached if they had been promoted with effect from the earlier dates on a Ministry wise basis.

Hindi Assistants

1630. Shrimati Shakuntala Devi: Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that orders have been issued in January, 1957 reverting from 1st February, 1957 all the Hindi Assistants to the posts of Clerks and they have been granted a special pay of Rs. 30 only for doing Hindi work;

(b) if so, whether the above orders apply equally to those candidates who were recruited through Employment Exchange or appointed from the non-Secretariat Service;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the number of persons of all the categories affected by the above orders?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) Yes, if the posts of Hindi Assistants were held on a purely temporary basis by clerks promoted out of turn.

(b) and (c). The orders do not apply to persons recruited as Hindi Assistants through the Employment Exchanges or from subordinate offices because they have been appointed on

an *ad hoc* basis and they will be replaced by qualified Hindi Assistants as soon as they become available.

(d) The information is not readily available.

Aeroplane Accident near Poona

1631. Shri Raghunath Singh: Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an Indian Air Force Officer was killed in an air crash 22 miles away from Poona on or about the 29th August, 1957; and

(b) if so, whether this is the second accident within that week?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Shri Raghuramaiah): (a) One Indian Air Force Officer was killed in an air crash 18 miles south of Poona on 28th August 1957.

(b) No.

Central Secretariat Stenographers' Service

1632. Shrimati Parvathi Krishnan: Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2436 on the 29th May, 1956 and state:

(a) the number of Stenographers who did not pass the U.P.S.C. Test, but were confirmed recently;

(b) whether it is a fact that at the time of framing rules for the centralisation of recruitment of Stenographers in the Central Secretariat and its Attached Offices displaced persons were specifically excluded from the operation of the concession under para 3 (c) of Ministry of Home Affairs Office Memorandum No 27/6/45 ests(s) dated 31st December, 1957; and

(c) if so, reasons therefor?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) The confirmation of Stenographers, who were exempted from passing the examination held by the Union Public Service Commission, took place long ago, and none of them was confirmed recently.

(b) No.

(c) Does not arise.

Drama Camp

1633. Shri Kodiyan: Will the Minister of **Education and Scientific Research** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 942 on the 27th August, 1957 and state:

(a) the salient features of the drama camp held in 1957-58;

(b) the number of people who participated in the camp; and

(c) the various heads under which Rs. 9,117 were spent?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Education and Scientific Research (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): (a) The Dramatics Training Camp conducted at Matheran from 13th May to 4th June, 1957, was attended by teachers nominated by 7 Universities for short term training in the techniques of Dramatics.

(b) 15.

(c) A statement is placed on the table of the Lok Sabha [*See* Appendix V, annexure No. 67].

Cantonment Board Employees

1634. Shri S. M. Banerjee: Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state whether the Pay Commission will also consider the wages and service conditions of the Cantonment Board Employees?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Shri Raghuramaiah): No. Sir.

Manufacture of Binoculars and Microscopes in Ordnance Factories

1635. Shri S. M. Banerjee: Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state:

(a) whether microscopes and binoculars are being manufactured in Ordnance Factories; and

(b) if so, whether these are sold in the market?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Shri Raghuramaiah): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

Manufacture of Sporting Guns in Ordnance Factories

1636. Shri S. M. Banerjee: Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state:

(a) whether sporting guns are being manufactured in Ordnance Factories;

(b) if so, the monthly production of such guns; and

(c) the cost per gun?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Shri Raghuramaiah): (a) Yes, 12 bore D.B.B.L. Shot Guns, Non-ejector type, are being manufactured in Ordnance Factories.

(b) 350 per month.

(c) The wholesale ex-factory prices and retail prices are as follows:—

Type of guns Size	Wholesale price Rs.	Retail price Rs.
2½" chamber	350/- each	450/ each
2¾" ,,	400/ ,,	500/ ,,

Machine Tool Factory, Ambernath and Khamaria Ordnance Factory

1637. Shri S. M. Banerjee: Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state:

(a) whether contracts of the Swiss Experts employed in Machine Tool Factory, Ambernath and Ordnance Factory, Khamaria expire by the end of 1957;

(b) if so, whether these contracts are being renewed; and

(c) whether it is not possible to replace these men by suitable candidates from our country?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Shri Raghuramaiah): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Does not arise.

Central Secretariat Service

1638. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Deputy Secretaries, Under Secretaries, Section Officers, Grade II and III Employees, in the Central Secretariat Service of the Government of India separately at present;

(b) whether it is a fact that a number of these officers have not passed any examination conducted by the Union Public Service Commission for confirmation or appointment to any post under the Government of India; and

(c) if so, the number of such officers grade-wise?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) On the 6th September, 1957, the total number of Deputy Secretaries, Under Secretaries, Section Officers—Grade II and III—in the Central Secretariat Service is as follows:—

Deputy Secretaries	.. 110
Under Secretaries	.. 425
Section Officers (Grade II)	.. 395
Section Officers (Grade III)	.. 1350

(b) and (c). Appointments and promotions are made strictly in accordance with the provisions of the relevant schemes for manning posts in these grades. The question of officers in particular grades not having passed an examination conducted by the Union Public Service Commission does not, therefore, separately arise.

Grant for Relief Measures in Naga Hills

1639. Shri Hynniewta: Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to lay a statement on the Table showing:

(a) the Ministries through which it is proposed to distribute the grant of Rs. 155 lakhs to the Government of Assam for relief measures etc., in the Naga Hills;

(b) the amount allotted to each Ministry;

(c) whether the expenditure on police forces borrowed from other States is to be covered by the above grant; and

(d) the amount to be spent on (i) relief measures (ii) roads and bridges (iii) borrowed police forces and (iv) other heads, if any?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) The Ministry of Home Affairs.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes.

(d) (i) Rs. 21.47 lakhs
(ii) Rs. 96.06 lakhs
(iii) Rs. 37.45 lakhs
(iv) Nil.

Settlers in Andaman Islands

1640. Shri B. S. Murthy: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons who were settled in Andaman Islands during 1956-57;

(b) the various parts of India from which they came; and

(c) whether all of them were given the land, money and other facilities?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shrimati Alva): (a) 1540 persons (399 families).

(b) West Bengal and Kerala.

(c) Each of these families was given five acres of cleared land and cash grants or loans admissible under the scheme. As regards other facilities, information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha as soon as received.

Medical Staff in States Collieries

1641. Shri H. N. Mukerjee: Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the fact that compounders and dressers and the medical staff generally, in State Collieries are not entitled either to weekly rest or holidays or any compensatory facilities;

(b) whether it is a fact that such deprivation has been sought to be justified on the analogy of medical staff on the railways; and

(c) whether since the transfer of control over such collieries from the railways and the stoppage of existing railway benefits to the employees in the said collieries, the position will be reviewed?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) Yes.

(b) The rules of the State Colliery Hospitals are at present based on the rules of the Railway Hospitals.

(c) The matter is proposed to be reviewed by the National Coal Development Corporation (Private) Ltd., which has taken over the ownership and management of the State Collieries from 1-10-1956.

Kotia Adivasis

1642. Shri B. C. Prodhan: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state the steps Government have taken for the improvement of the conditions of the Kotia Adivasis living in the hilly parts of Orissa State?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shrimati Alva): Welfare schemes have been taken up by the Government of Orissa for their welfare.

Neiveli Lignite Project

1643. Shri Elayaperumal: Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) how many Scheduled Castes are working in the Lignite Mine at Neiveli South Arcot District, Madras State in both Technical and Non-Technical Cadres; and

(b) how many applications were received from the Scheduled Caste candidates for the various posts and how many were selected in the year 1956-57?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) and (b). Necessary information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha shortly.

Panchayat Elections in Delhi State

1644. Shri Awasthi: Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to hold fresh elections to the Panchayats in Delhi State in the near future;

(b) if so, when; and

(c) the reasons for the delay in holding the elections?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) Yes. This will, however, be the first and not a fresh election under the Delhi Panchayat Raj Act, 1955.

(b) and (c). Certain amendments have to made in the Delhi Panchayat Raj Act, 1955, and the Delhi Land Reforms Act, 1954 so as to bring them into conformity with each other. These amendments are at present under consideration and the elections will be held soon after the Acts have been amended.

Embezzlement of Soldiers' Welfare Fund

1644-A. Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Colonel Limaye, Station Commander of Delhi Area, is involved in embezzlement of huge amounts of money of Soldiers' Welfare Fund; and

(b) if so, whether any action is being taken against him?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Shri Raghuramaiah): (a) It has been reported to Government that there are reasons to believe that ex-Col. R. H. Limaye, who was adm. Comdt. Delhi, has misappropriated a fairly large sum of money belonging to Regimental Funds, Welfre Funds, the Rampur Fund of the Station Headquarters and the Private Fund account of the Station Staff Officer, Red Fort.

(b) The officer is absconding and his whereabouts are not known since July 1956. The case has been handed over to the civil police and is being investigated by them.

12 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

STATEMENTS SHOWING ACTION TAKEN BY GOVERNMENT ON VARIOUS ASSURANCES ETC.

The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Satya Narayan Sinha): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of each of the following statements showing the action by the Government on various assurances, promises and undertakings given by Ministers during the various session shown against each:—

(1) Supplementary Statement No. II . . Second Session, 1957 of Second Lok Sabha. [*See* Appendix V, annexure No. 68]

(2) Supplementary Statement No. III. . First Session, 1957 of Second Lok Sabha. [*See* Appendix V, annexure No. 69]

(3) Supplementary Statement No. V . Fifteenth Session, 1957 of First Lok Sabha. [*See* Sppendix V, annexure No. 70]

(4) Supplementary Statement No. VI . . Fourteenth Session, 1956 of First Lok Sabha. [*See* Appendix V, annexure No. 71]

(5) Supplementary Statement No. XIII . Thirteenth Session, 1956 of First Lok Sabha. [*See* Appendix V, annexure No. 72.]

AMENDMENT TO MINERAL CONCESSION RULES

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): I beg to lay on the Table under Section 10 of the Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development) Act, 1948, a copy of each of the following notifi-

cations making certain further amendments to Mineral Concession Rules, 1959:—

(1) S.R.O. 2679 dated the 24th August, 1957.

(2) S.R.O. 2753 dated the 31st August, 1957.

[*Placed in Library See* No. S-272/57.]

BUDGET ESTIMATES OF EMPLOYEES' STATE INSURANCE CORPORATION, 1957-58

Shri Satya Narayan Sinha: On behalf of Shri Abid Ali, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Revised Estimates for the year 1956-57 and Budget Estimates for the year 1957-58 of the Employees' State Insurance Corporation, under section 36 of the Employees' State Insurance Act, 1948.

[*Placed in Library. See* No. S-273/57.]

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao (Khammam): These estimates relating to 1957-58 are being laid on the Table just at the fag end of the session. You remember, last time, when the annual report for 1954-55 was laid on the Table, my hon. friend Shri Prabhat Kar asked why there was delay There is no reply so far to that also. Now, they are coming forward with this. My hon. friend Shri M. Elias gave notice for a discussion on the report It could not be allowed for want of time. There is a lot of discontent prevailing about the working of the Employees' State Insurance Corporation. If they lay the report at the fag end of the session, when can we discuss? This should be taken serious note of.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Labour Minister may kindly be informed.

Shri Satya Narayan Sinha: I shall do so.

Shri Tangamani (Madurai): The reports for 1955-56 and 1956-57 are not yet ready.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: When the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs comes, he should come forward with these things. The Minister is absent. When we raised it last time also, he was not present.

Mr. Speaker: Occasionally, some Ministers are absent What can be done? Hon. Members will have an interval. They may study and come fresh for the next session.

Shri Satya Narayan Sinha: There is no time in this session in any case.

Mr. Speaker: They want further information regarding this matter so that they may be ready.

NOTIFICATIONS UNDER ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES ACT

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): On behalf of Shri M. V. Krishnappa, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of each of the following Notifications, under sub-section (6) of section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955:—

(1) S.R.O. 1697, dated the 25th May, 1957.

(2) S.R.O. 1895, dated the 8th June, 1957.

(3) S.R.O. 2366, dated the 20th July, 1957

[*Placed in Library. See* No. S-274/57.]

Shri Ranga (Tenali): Is it necessary for the principal Minister himself to go on laying statements here, on behalf of his Deputy?

Shri A. P. Jain: It is entered in his name

Mr. Speaker: It is so in the Order Paper. The hon. Minister wanted to make the record correct.

STATEMENT IN REPLY TO HALF-AN-HOUR DISCUSSION ARISING OUT OF ANSWERS GIVEN TO QUESTION

The Deputy Minister of Education and Scientific Research (Shri M. M. Das): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the statement in reply to Half-an-Hour discussion raised on the 31st August, 1957 on the replies given to starred Question No. 388 on the 25th July, 1957, regarding Medicinal Plants Organisation and Utilisation of Crude Drugs.

[*See* Appendix V, annexure No. 78.]

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Sardar Hukum Singh (Bhatinda): I beg to lay on the Table of the House the Minutes of the first, second, third, fourth, fifth, seventh and eighth sittings of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions, held during the Second Session.

[*Placed in Library. See* No. S-276/57.]

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS

Shri Barman (Cooch Bihar—Reserved—Sch. Castes): I beg to lay on the Table the minutes of the first to ninth sittings of the Committee on Petitions, held during the Second Session.

[*Placed in Library. See* No. S-277/57.]

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE ON THE ABSENCE OF MEMBERS FROM THE SITTINGS OF THE HOUSE

Shri K. U. Parmar (Ahmedabad—Reserved—Sch. Castes): I beg to lay on the Table the minutes of the Committee on Absence of Members from the Sittings of the House (First and Second) held during the Second Session.

[*Placed in Library. See* No. S-278/57.]

COMMITTEE OF PRIVILEGES

First Report

Sardar Hukam Singh (Bhatinda): I beg to lay on the Table the First Report of the Committee of Privileges.

MESSAGE FROM RAJYA SABHA

Secretary: Sir, I have to report the following message received from the Secretary of Rajya Sabha:—

'I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Insurance (Amendment) Bill, 1957, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 4th September, 1957, has been passed by the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 11th September, 1957, with the following amendment:—

Clause 1

That at page 1, line 5, *for* the words and figures "It shall come into force on the 1st day of September, 1957" the words and figures "It shall be deemed to have come into force on the 1st day of September, 1957." be *substituted*.

I am, therefore, to return herewith the said Bill in accordance with the provisions of rule 126 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha with the request that the concurrence of the Lok Sabha to the said amendment be communicated to this House.'

INSURANCE (AMENDMENT) BILL

Laid on the Table as passed by Rajya Sabha

Secretary: Sir, I lay on the Table of the House the Insurance (Amendment) Bill, 1957, which has been returned by Rajya Sabha with an amendment.

COMMITTEE ON SUBORDINATE LEGISLATION

First Report

Sardar Hukam Singh (Bhatinda): I beg to present the First Report of the Committee on Subordinate Legislation.

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE

First Report

Shri T. N. Singh (Chandauli): I beg to present the First Report of the Public Accounts Committee on the Appropriation Accounts (Posts and Telegraphs), 1954-55, and Audit Report 1956, Part II, and Audit Report (Posts and Telegraphs), 1957, Part I.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

Food situation in West Bengal

Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri (Nabadwip): Under Rule 197, I beg to call the attention of the Minister of Food and Agriculture to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon:—

> The drought conditions prevailing in various districts of West Bengal, its repercussions on prices of foodstuffs and measures taken to cope with the situation.

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): As I stated in the House, I have visited West Bengal to study the food situation. During my two days' stay in Calcutta, I have met the Ministers and the officials of the State Government, the representatives of the consumers' societies, traders, millers, organised industry and numerous public men. My assessment of the situation is as follows:—

In the middle of last year, parts of Bengal, in particular, the Sunderbans area had been affected by cyclone Then, in September, 1956, followed the floods which severally affected a number of districts, in particular, Murshidabad, Nadia and Burdwan. Although, large-scale relief operations were undertaken by the State Government, yet the economic condition of these areas greatly suffered. The *rabi* crop in West Bengal this year was affected by rust etc. Later on, rains were belated and owing to drought conditions, sowing and transplantation of paddy was delayed causing unemployment to agricultural workers. The recent rains, however, came as a great relief and have improved the situation. The two districts of Nadia and 24 Parganas, between themselves, have just less than half the population of displaced persons, many of whom are not fully rehabilitated. The problem of food has been aggravated by that of refugee rehabilitation. In this background it is natural that there should be suffering and the districts of Bankura, Murshidabad, Nadia and 24 Parganas have suffered most.

The Central Government had been supplying 10,000 tons of rice and 40,000 to 45,000 tons of wheat per month for consumption in West Bengal. After the ban on export of rice from Andhra became operative, the Central Government agreed to supply an additional quantity of 5,000 tons in the month of August. Although the import of rice, including paddy in terms of rice, from Andhra, Madhya Pradesh and Orissa to Calcutta has in the first eight months of this year, been of the order of 1,60,000 tons upto the end of August as compared to 96,000 tons during the financial year 1955-56 and 1,11,000 tons during 9 months from April 1956 to January 1957, the market continues to be difficult and prices rule high.

The West Bengal Government, keeping in view the overall rice position of the country, requested the Centre that they would need 80,000 tons of rice during the month of September, October and November. The State Government have a little more than 7,000 tons of the imported rice in stock and have requisitioned another 8,000 to 9,000 tons of rice from the millers, thus the total supplies available with the State Government are of the order of 15,000 to 16,000 tons. The Central Government have agreed to meet the demand of the State Government for the supply of the balance. There

[Shri A. P. Jain]

is enough stock of rice in the Central Godowns at Calcutta and there is no danger of the agreed supplies of rice falling short.

It is fortunate that the people of West Bengal, though primarily rice eating, have reconciled themselves to consuming large quantities of wheat. The demand of wheat for districts was assessed by the State Government at 25,000 tons per month for September and October and 15,000 tons for the month of November.

The Central Government have agreed to suppy the full quantity. The Central Government had been supplying from their depots in alcutta 800 tons of wheat per day to the roller flour mills, 200 tons to fair price shops and 200 tons to Chakkiwalas. About 25 per cent of the wheat products manufactured by the roller flour mills is exported to the districts of West Bengal, Assam and other places, three-fourth of this export being generally made to the districts of West Bengal. The supplies of wheat and wheat products to West Bengal is going to be of the order of 60,000 tons per month. To improve the stock position of wheat in the Central Godown, Calcutta, my colleague, the Minister of Transport, has been good enough to make available berths at the Calcutta port for the discharge of food ships and it is hoped that regular supplies of wheat will be maintained.

Of late the price of atta went up somewhat in the city and the industrial areas of Calcutta. Though it is financially more advantageous for the roller flour mills to produce more of fine maida and suji, they have been asked to adjust the production of atta and maida in such a manner that sufficient quantities of atta, which is the poor man's food, are always available in the market at the prescribed price. A system of licensing of roller flour mills has just been introduced and if necessary it will be possible for the Government to regulate in future the production of various kinds of wheat products by the roller flour mills. The Chakkiwala's numbering between 1,200 to 1,500 have been given an additional quantity of 200 tons per day but the supply of wheat through the fair price shops has been stopped. A further quantity of 200 tons per day has been placed at the disposal of the State Government as a reserve for such use as they consider necessary.

The State Government have decided to issue identity cards which will enable the holder to get one seer of wheat or wheat products per week per adult. The holder will be entitled to substitute what for rice but not rice for wheat. Thirty-seven lakh identity cards have already been issued in Calcutta and the industrial area and 40 lakhs cards have been issued in the districts. The State Government are carefully watching the situation and they may, if need arises, issue 13 lakh more identity cards in Calcutta and industrial area and 10 lakhs in the districts, thus raising the number of identity cards to one crore.

On the basis of nine ounce per adult per day, a quantity of 65,000 tons per month of foodgrains would be needed to meet the demand of one crore identity cards. Thus, out of the quantities supplied by the Centre, about 25 per cent will be left over to the State Government to meet the demands for relief, test works and other requirements.

The State Government have established a system of approved shops through which all the supplies of rice, wheat and wheat products made by the Government will be channelled. The roller flour mills and Chakkiwalas, will be directly linked with the approved shops. In order to minimise the chances of passing governmental supplies as open market commodities, the approved shops will not be allowed to deal in rice, wheat and wheat products other than those supplied by the Government. However to ensure them a reasonable income, they will be allowed to deal in other commodities such as pulses, sugar, salt etc.

Propaganda for encouraging consumers' resistance against payment of prices higher than the prescribed ones will be intensified and strict action will be taken against any approved shop which indulges in malpractices. The overhauling of the distributive machinery and the intensification of inspection and check, it is expected, will minimise malpractices.

The hon. Members will agree that the West Bengal Government have, for a considerable time, been facing a very difficult and complex situation. In a little more than a month's time the *aus* crop will be reaching the market. It should give some relief. Nevertheless, until the main *aman* crop comes to the market, by the middle of December, the situation will have to be watched carefully. Both the Central and the State Governments are fully alive to the situation and it is hoped that with the co-operation of the people, who seem to fully realise the difficulties of the situation, undue suffering will be avoided.

Shri A. C. Guha (Barasat): May I suggest that copies of this statement may be made available at least to the West Bengal Members before the discussion on food is taken up today in the afternoon?

Mr. Speaker: Any more copies with the Minister?

Shri A. P. Jain: I do not know how many copies would be available. Within the short time available now, it will not be possible to print new copies, but whatever copies are available I am prepared to place at the disposal of the hon. Members from West Bengal.

Shri Tangamani (Madurai): This statement is about West Bengal. I have given a similar calling attention notice about Madras, because the imported rice is going to be stopped from 1st October. I do not know what has happened to it.

Mr. Speaker: I remember to have admitted it for the 13th. That is my recollection.

RULES COMMITTEE

SECOND REPORT

Sardar Hukam Singh (Bhatinda): I beg to move:

> "That this House agrees with the Second Report of the Rules Committee laid on the Table of the House on the 7th September, 1957."

In this connection I would like to make some observations also.

This question of some kind of credentials being required from a Member when he comes to take the oath or make a solemn affirmation has been engaging the attention of this House for some time.

As early as 1926, Sir Fredrick Whyte, the First President of the Legislative Assembly, had to observe:

> "On the elected Members presenting themselves to take the oath or to affirm, no further authentication of identity is required. This is a lacuna in the Assembly procedure and might be used as a loophole for malpractices."

It was felt even at that time that there was some lacuna in our rules, and some kind of credentials might be required from the Members to be produced when they came here to take the oath or make the solemn affirmation.

In this period since we got our independence we have had two cases here. One was not of a serious nature. In that case, a Member, a gentleman I should say, walked into this House. I was in the Chair. That was also pointed out and also watched him when he was coming in to occupy some seat, and then arrangements had to be made there and then to escort him outside. It was discovered that there was something wrong with his brain. So, no serious notice was taken of that. Anyhow, we made enquiries as to how he had slipped in.

[Sardar Hukam Singh]

The second incident is of recent occurrence when on the 15th July, a Member who claimed that he had become honourable by being elected, just came in. He could give the slip to the members of the Watch and Ward. He came here and sat by me. I tried to question him. Shri Gopalan also felt doubtful as to whether he was a really elected Member, but he refused to be drawn into any conversation. I thought perhaps he did not like to have any conversation with me, but he refused to talk to Shri Gopalan also. He adopted the better course and told us this much only that he was an independent. When I told him that this was not his seat and that this seat had been allotted to the leader of the Communist group Shri Dange, he replied that he had been asked to occupy this seat by the Speaker himself. I did not know at that time. I could not decide whether . . .

Shri Sinhasan Singh (Gorakhpur): He said he was asked to occupy the seat by the Speaker himself. What more credential do you want!

Sardar Hukam Singh: That was ineffective, it was proved. That was no credential we found out afterwards. I was afraid that Shri Dange had been substituted by another in his party!

I at once asked the Lobby Assistant here to request him that he might move to some seat in the back benches because he was a new man, but that Assistant had to be very polite and apologetic. These employees or these officers of the Watch and Ward, or the Security Officers, have to be very careful.

I think I might mention here that we, Members, are also very sensitive when an enquiry is made. They take strong objection to any question being put by the Security Officer or by the Watch and Ward people. This much I can say, that those officers are polite. They are afraid lest they might touch any tender cord of hon. Members. They feel nervous as to whether they are doing the right thing, and at that time they are very apprehensive whether some wrath might not fall upon them. They take every precaution. I give them credit that they are discharging their duties quite satisfactorily.

Even then, some cases have occurred. A recent case had been brought to my notice. It occurred only a few days back. An hon. Member had come here and taken oath. Then he had to go away. After some time, he appeared and he was not known to those officers who were posted there. So when he was just questioned, he took strong objection to that. May be that sometimes the officer may not put the question in such a refined way. We will have to give them allowances for the education that they got and the salary that they are getting. We cannot expect that they would be as refined as other highly paid officers may be. I had a talk with that hon. Member. He had complained that the way in which that question was put offended him.

We shall have to reconcile ourselves. We ought to be thick-skinned and whether an enquiry is made, we ought to answer that, if we want that these precautions should be taken and there should be no recurrence of such an incident as we witnessed on the 15th July. If we have to be careful and if Members have to come here to take the oath, there is no harm if some kind of credentials are needed, and they have to produce them before they are allowed to take oath.

On that day, the Prime Minister just had this observation to make; he said that presentation of credentials by Members before making oath or affirmation should be considered necessary. He also requistioned the Speaker that he might consider perhaps some amendment of the rules so as to prevent the possibility of such a thing happening in future.

Then this question was brought before the Rules Committee. They took a decision. They have made certain amendments. So far as this Report is concerned, there are only two main amendments One is that Committees may be authorised to administer oath to the witnesses who appear before them.

The second is about credentials. These credentials are not new things. In the U.S.A. also, credentials are required to be produced by the Members In the U.K., when a new Members comes in, two Members introduce that Member to the Speaker or to the House. So it is not a new thing. We have to take this precaution.

I also notice that two amendments have been tabled. Perhaps it might be stated that this precaution goes too far. But there should not be any nervousness on that account because 'once bitent, twice shy'. We have to take care because there was a mistake. We might be over-cautious; even then there is no harm

So this Form has been prescribed. Shri Sinhasan Singh has tabled two amendments. First, he wants modification of the Form as prescribed He wants to make it more simple than it is. In the first and second paragraphs, it has been said that the Returning Officer shall certify that there was an election, that he has secured a majority of votes; then he has to say that he has been duly elected Shri Sinhasan Singh's amendment says that only this much might be said that such and such Member has been duly elected to this House.

The second, and perhaps the more serious amendment is that there ought not to be any provision so far as the production of an attested photograph is concerned. That is his main objection, that it is derogatory to the Members, and expensive and irksome to secure a photograph and get it attested by the Returning Officer.

So far as expense is concerned—I am only anticipating; I do not say that he will take up this line— I think if he has spent thousands of rupees on the election, he would not mind spending 8 annas on his photograph also

Then there is another thing. I suppose in most of the cases, Members do get themselves photographed when contesting elections Some copies have to be sent to newspapers as well Therefore, there cannot be a large majority of them—there may be a few exceptions—who would not have photographs with them So I think there will be no difficulty in getting them attested by the Returning Officer. They would not feel any trouble so far as that is concerned.

Mr. Speaker: Photographs are also required for railway passes

Sardar Hukam Singh: Yes, thank you for that

Shri Goray (Poona): That is done afterwards.

Sardar Hukam Singh: If they have them beforehand, there is no harm. Then a copy of a photograph can be appended to the railway pass as well.

Therefore, if photographs are had beforehand, that would be rather more useful and might save them some expense, because of the large number of copies got at that time. So in my opinion, there is no harm, and we should agree. I would request hon. Members to agree to this motion of mine that it may be adopted. It would save us from any chance of malpractices that have occurred in the past.

Shri Sinhasan Singh: I beg to move:

(1) That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

'subject to the following modification, namely:—

"Draft amendments No. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and the draft First Schedule shown in Appendix to the First Report be omitted."'

[Shri Sinhasan Singh]

(ii) That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

'subject to the following modification, namely:—

"In the draft First Schedule shown in Appendix to the First Report, for the existing Form 'A' the following form be substituted, namely:—

Form 'A'

I,....., Returning Officer..... constituency, do hereby certify that Shri..... has been duly elected to the House of the People from this constituency.

Given under the hand and official seal of the Returning Officer at ..... this..... day of ....., 19... .....

OFFICIAL SEAL RETURNING OFFICER.. .. ....Constituency"'

When I saw this motion and the amendments, it shocked my very nerves, as to how far we are proceeding to dishonour the Members of this Honourable House. Reference was made to a photo being attached to the identity card-*cum*-railway pass. When this system was also introduced, it rather struck me as strange. But then this idea was there that there should be an identify card so that Members might not be checked here and there, and they may be allowed to pass. So long as it was only for that purpose, I did not oppose it, when both were mixed—identity card-*cum*-railway pass. Now, after the Member comes here, he takes oath and is declared a Member. If this identity card were to be signed when the Member is declared elected by the Returning Officer and then and there a photo is attached, the matter will be quite different. But to have a credential attested by the Returning Officer is something very derogatory to the very honour of all the Members of the House.

Could we expect our Prime Minister, when he is declared elected, to go through this process? I know the most of the Members are not present at the time of the counting. They will be somewhere else. But this procedure, if adopted by the House, will compulsorily make all the Members present there, howsoever they may be busy otherwise. They would have to get their photo and signature attested before they can come to take oath here. This is a procedure which not only puts Members to shame but in the case of important personalities, to go to the Returning Officer and get their photo and signature attested is something which I cannot imagine.

Shri Nath Pai (Rajapur): The Prime Minister is also an M.P. first. He is just a common citizen.

Shri Sinhasan Singh: If the House feels that it is all right, it can pass it. But what I am saying is this. Here you have got the election agent. He does all your work on your behalf. You may not be present there.

Article 99 does not provide for any credentials being presented. In the Rules of Procedure which we are making under article 118 of the Constitution, we cannot do something which is not given by the Constitution itself. So far as I understand, the Rules of Procedure only relate to the conduct of the business in the House and not to the matter of taking oath which is provided for in the Constitution. Article 99 prescribes how he will take oath. That says:

> "Every member of either House of Parliament shall, before taking his seat, make and subscribe before the President, or some person appointed in that behalf by him, an oath or affirmation according to the form set out for the purpose in the Third Schedule".

It nowhere states that the Member will present his credentials before he

is allowed to take oath. What are we doing now? By rules of procedure, we will not allow him to take oath unless he presents his credentials. So, we are doing something which the Constitution does not say. You cannot by the Rules of Procedure do something which the Constitution does not envisage.

Mr. Speaker: If an outsider comes what is to happen?

Shri Sinhasan Singh: There were only two mistakes that have occurred in this House; one long ago and the other recently. For that every Member of the House is going to be penalised

Mr. Speaker: What is the harm?

Shri Sinhasan Singh: Because one non-member could get ingress to the House and took the oath you are doing this There is already a penalty provided in article 104 and if there is any person who is not a Member but takes his seat, he has to pay a fine of Rs. 500/-. That is already there in article 104.

Mr. Speaker: Only if it is discovered. The other day we might not have noticed it.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: If a Mem- Previously, it was the practice for the Secretary to read out the names of the persons who are to take the oath. On that day his name was not read out.

Mr. Speaker: Assuming that his name had been read out and that man said that he was so and so, what is to happen?

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: If a Member takes the oath without his name being read out, we do not know who is the Member that is going to be called to take the oath.

Mr. Speaker: Even if the names are read out here and if the man had said that he was one of the 48 names that were read out, what would happen?

Shri Sinhasan Singh: It won't possibly happen; it would not be possible for anybody to do that, when two or three names are being called by the Secretary. (*Interruption*)

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: The names and constituencies should be read.

Shri Sinhasan Singh: This would not happen because when the Secretary reads 5 names and there is a sixth man, he would have been detected. Anyhow the man would have been detected. As the Deupty-Speaker pointed out there was a question put to him and that particular man's behaviour was odd.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member has tabled an amendment to this. He does not want to do away the credentials; he has given another form of credentials.

Shri Sinhasan Singh: Sir, that is only a form which is there under the Representation of the People Act. The Returning Officer has to declare a person elected and he sends that declaration to the Parliament Secretariat. A copy of the same declaration he may give to the Member also. No new credentials are required if that is accepted; that is so under the American system. There also it is only meant for the Senators and not for the representatives of the people, and the credentials is given by the Governor of the State and not by the Returning Officer. The credential is addressed to the President and not to the Secretary. Even there the photo and the signature (attested) is not required. You are humiliating us by asking us to put the photo and have the signature attested by the Returning Officer. That is my objection. (*Interruption.*)

This procedure also offends the Constitution. It differentiates between two kinds of Members. You are amending only Rule 5 of the Rules of Procedure and this rule says.....

Mr. Speaker: It is necessary to elaborate the point? I will put the question whether the House wants the photo or not.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: You may put it. The photo is derogatory. We

[Dr. Ram Subhag Singh]

should not introduce a new procedure or practice.

Shri Sinhasan Singh: What is there in the Representation of the People Act is enough; there need not be this photo. If I am permitted, I will read the American form also.

Mr. Speaker: He has said enough about his amendment.

Shri Sinhasan Singh: It also classifies the Members in two categories. Rule 5 of the Rules of procedure relates only to those Members who have not already taken their oath under article 99. That is, after a general election, everybody has to take oath here. But this rule only says:

> 'A member who has not already made and subscribed an oath or affairmation, in pursuance of Article 99 of the Constitution, may do so at the commencement of a sitting of the House, or at any other time of the sitting of the House, as the Speaker may direct... (*Interruption*).

My submission here is that the photo and the signature should be done away with. What I have suggested is very simple. It reads:

> "I,....., Returning Officer. .....constituency, do hereby certify that Shri ..... has been duly elected to the House of the People from this constituency.
>
> Given under the hand official seal of the Returning Officer at.. ....this.....day of ...., 19..."

This is in conformity with the declaration required under the Representation of the Peoples Act that so and so has been declared elected, and a copy of which is sent to Parliament. He may be given a copy of this declaration, which may serve as a credential if you are bent upon having credentials. I submit that no credentials need be insisted upon and every hon. Member should be believed and our honour should be saved at any cost.

Mr. Speaker: If an hon. Member has to swear to an affidavit, would he not go before a magistrate?

Shri Sinhasan Singh: That everybody will have to do.

Shri P. C. Bose (Dhanbad): The amendment is intended to overcome a delicate situation that may arise.... (*Interruption*).

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Members should not go on interrupting like this.

Shri P. C. Bose: The amendment is intended to overcome a delicate situation that may arise in case somebody comes and poses himself to be a Member. That I quite realise. But, supposing, even after getting the certificate from the Returning Officer one Member loses it or it is stolen on the way, what would happen to him when he comes over here? Will he be kept outside and will he have to go back to the Returning Officer and get the certificate again? By that time the Returning Officer might have died. What is the position. The other side of the picture should also be considered. I quite understand that we want to avoid an imposter coming here.

Mr. Speaker: What if he loses his railway ticket before he gets into the train?

Shri P. C. Bose: That also can be provided for in the amendment that if any such Member comes in he must be allowed on being identified by two other old Members. Something like that should be provided; otherwise, the situation may be difficult.

Shri Thimmaiah (Kolar—Reserved—Sch. Castes): Instead of insisting on the photo and the signature after the election is over, you can as well amend the Representation of the People Act and say that the photo along with the attested signature should be filed along with the nomination paper so that, after the elections, the Returning Officer can send the photo and the attested signature here. That will serve the purpose.

Mr. Speaker: I will put the amendment to the vote of the House.

Shri Shree Narayan Das (Darbhanga): I would like to say something, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: I have heard enough.

Shri Punnoose (Ambalapuzha): Sir, it is a very important matter and once you pass it you cannot get out of it. To go to the Returning Officer and to ask this thing to be certified by him is rather an undignified way of doing that. There must be some sort of identification. As was suggested, even when our nomination papers are filed, at that time the photo may be taken and sent to the Returning Officer and that may be compared. But to go to the Returning Officer and ask him to sign it is not good.

There will be a lot of difficulties On that particular day when the results are declared the Returning Officer might be there Sometimes, it so happens that the Returning Officer comes to that place from 100 or 200 miles away. But for a Member to go there before he starts for Delhi to get this done would mean a lot of difficulty Let him be introduced by another Member of the House. Where is the difficulty in that?

Mr. Speaker: How is he to be identified—the man who first comes here?

Shri Naushir Bharaucha (East Kandesh): Even the security measures proposed are not new. There are defects and they can be circumvented. In the first place, it is presumed they that the returning officers' signature cannot be forged.

Mr. Speaker: Everything in the world can be done.

Shri Naushir Bharaucha: That is why, Sir, I tell you. Instances occurred in the Bombay Legislative Assembly. I was handed over a certified copy of a court's order with the forged signature of the Presidency Magistrate and the seal of the Court. On the basis of that, I asked certain questions in the Assembly. The hon. Minister of Commerce and Industry, who was then the Chief Minister, pointed out that the whole thing was forged. If people can go to that length only for the purpose of inducing members to put questions in the legislatures, what is the guarantee that the signature of the returning officer or his seal will not be forged?

It is also presumed that the Secretary knows the signatures of all the 500 returning officers. He will have, first of all, to call for the specimen signatures. The whole thing is cumbersome I propose that the matter be referred back to the Rules Committee in the light of the discussions to consider the whole thing afresh.

Shri S. Ghose (Burdwan): There is also a legal question that comes to my mind. The returning officer is governed by the Representation of the Peoples Act. How can we compel to put his signature?

Sardar Hukam Singh: I hope that we can agree to the suggestion made by Shri Bharucha. There would be no opposition. I find that we are divided on that..... (*Interruptions*). I am one of those who moved it. A division would be there even then. But, I think that such a motion should not be decided on division. The House should not take a decision when there is a such difference of opinion. I really like the proposal of Shri Bharucha and it may be sent back to be considered there. We can call those hon. Members who have strong opposition to it and discuss it. Then we can come to an agreed solution. The Rules Committee is not insistent that this must be carried through. So, it may be considered there and there is no harm. If that is the opinion of the House, it may be taken. At least I feel that such a question should not be decided by taking votes.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: May I move formally, now? I beg to move:

> "That the proposal regarding presentation of credentials by Members be referred back to the Rules Committee."

Mr. Speaer: I shall put it to the vote of the House, if that is the desire of the hon. Members. The question is:

"That the proposal regarding presentation of credentials by Members be referred back to the Rules Committee".

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Speaker: So far as the other rule is concerned, witnesses appear before the Select Committees. The Select Committees and other Committees such as the Estimates Committee and the Public Accounts Committee have got a right to administer oaths to them. I shall now put the amendment to rule 272. The question is:

For rule 272, the following rule shall be substituted, namely:—

"272. (1) A Committee may administer oath or affirmation to a witness examined before it.

(2) The form of the oath or affirmation shall be as follows:

'I, A. B., do *swear in the name* of God solemenly affirm that the evidence which I shall give in this case shall be true, that I will conceal nothing, and that no part of my evidence shall be false'."

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Speaker: So, now this is adopted. The other one is referred back to the Rules Committee for further investigation and report. The House will now take up the other matter.

FORWARD CONTRACTS (REGULATION) AMENDMENT BILL

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill further to amend the Forward Contracts (Regulation) Act, 1952, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

Sir, before dealing with the specific provisions of the Bill, it would be useful to recount in brief the background of the matter. Forward markets play a useful part in moderating price fluctuations, and providing hedging or insurance facilities to producers and traders concerned with a commodity. However, such markets also sometimes lend themselves to the danger of speculation and manipulation, which may, in fact, exaggerate price fluctuations and render the markets unsuitable for the purpose of hedging. It is, therefore, essential to regulate forward markets with a view to preserving and enhancing their utility and preventing undesirable speculation and manipulation. The Forward Contracts (Regulation) Act is intended to serve the above purpose. The Act was passed in 1952, and Chapters II and VI thereof came into force in the whole of India (except the State of Jammu and Kashmir) on the 24th August, 1953. The Act provides for the application of its regulatory provisions to specified areas and commodities, and for the recognition of associations through which only forward contracts are permitted to be entered into in such specified areas and commodities. Of course this does not deal generally with the non-transferable specific delivery contracts unless stipulated so by the Forward Markets Commission. The Act also provides for the establishment of the Forward Markets Commission for advising Government in respect of all matter arising out of the administration of the Act and for performing such other duties and exercising such other powers as may be assigned to it. The Forward Markets Commission was accordingly established in September, 1953.

The commodities in which forward trading is at present regulated under the Act are: cotton, groundnut, groundnut oil, castorseed, cotton seed, linseed, coconut oil, pepper and turmeric. The regulation extends to the entire country. 12 associations have so far been recognised at different centres in the country for regulating forward trading in the several commodities mentioned above. Some of the associations

have been recognised for regulating forward trading in more than one commodity.

The scheme of regulation of forward markets under the Act depends for its success, to a great extent, on the proper constitution of the governing bodies of the recognised associations. The continuous regulation of forward markets is, no doubt, the responsibility of the governing bodies; but in important matters like these, the Government is both entitled and empowered to give appropriate directives to the associations, and also to itself amend articles of associations and bye-laws of associations as and when necessary. It is essential, in view of the large powers enjoyed by the governing bodies, that they should afford adequate representation to the different interests. Unlike companies in general, which are more for manufacturing and trading, the membership of associations concerned with the regulation of forward trading consists of persons whose interest are diverse and at times even conflicting, such as processors, growers, importers, exporters, merchants, brokers and commission agents. The task of regulation of such diverse and conflicting interests would, therefore, lend itself to several points of view and therefore, all sections of trade interests concerned should be having appropriate representation on the governing body.

In order to secure such a balanced representation on the governing bodies for different interests, so that the forward markets and associations concerned work within the framework of the broad policies of the Government, the means generally employed is to serve seats for different interests, Unlike the companies where purely the shareholders by the very strength of their holdings get the representation, in such type of bodies which are of a regulatory nature, and not of a manufacturing or processing nature, such a panel of group representation becomes almost unavoidable. The members are usually classified into different panels such as those representing a distinct interest based principally on the identity of their interest and functions in the marketing process. Such panels consist, for instance, of sellers, buyers, processors, importers, exporters, merchants and brokers as I mentioned earlier.

The members have also been occasionally clasified into different panels on a territorial basis because, after all, the rings selected by the Forward Markets Association are not too many and too much dispersed. So, they should have also some regional function to perform. Therefore, members trading on a particular geographical location, in other words on a ring, in a particular town have to be grouped together.

The need for reservation of seats for the different functional interests on the governing bodies arises because their numerical strength in the total membership is generally not in accord with their relative importance. Though their holding in a particular trade may be high the performing duty that they have to carry out is of a much more important order. The justification for permitting forward trading lies in the benefit that it confers on all the interests handling the actual commodity in the best interests of the consumer and the grower. In practice, however, the proportion of such members is small in the aggregate membership of the associations, which predominantly consists of merchants and brokers—because in trading it is generally the merchants and brokers who predominate—who are interested only in the commission that they earn from the transactions. And, in the wider social objective that this particular acts of the forward trading has, it is only by reserving seats for representatives of the interests genuinely interested in the actual commodity, and giving them a weightage in excess of their proportion in the total membership, that the representative character of the governing bodies can be ensured, and the spe-

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culative tendencies in the markets kept within reasonable bounds.

Seats have to be earmarked on the governing bodies for members belonging to different territorial interests, where the recognised association has been formed by the co-operation of the trading community of different competing centres, and the recognised association, is expected to serve the interests of the entire community. It is only by preserving the local representation on such associations and the governing bodies of such associations that we can ensure an effective voice in the deliberations of these different local interests, and the associations ultimately can function smoothly, without conflict and winning the confidence of all concerned, building up harmonious and balanced relations.

Where seats are earmarked to represent different interests, the House will agree that it is possible to have only two alternative methods of election to the governing body. In some associations, the system of, what is called, general franchise is adopted in which, while the candidates standing for election have to belong to the respective panels concerned, the election itself is by the entire membership constituting the general body—for instance, the East India Cotton Association, Bombay, has been functioning on this pattern of general franchise. In other associations, the system of panel-wise franchise is adopted, and the seats, earmarked for different panels are secured by election exclusively by the members belonging to these panels—for instance, the Oilseeds and Oil Exchange, Bombay is performing the function on a panel-wise franchise basis.

Out of the 12 associations which have been so far recognised at present, 8 provide for panels formed on the latter method, that is the panel method which I just now mentioned and which are formed on the basis of functional interests; 2 associations provide for panels formed on the basis of local interests, and the remaining 2 do not provide for any panels at all. The reason for the absence of the panel system at 2 associations was that there were certain practical difficulties in immediately grouping their members according to their respective interests. It was not so much the difference on the particular method that is being suggested, but the practical difficulty that was coming in their way. Therefore, there is no need to entertain any serious apprehensions by the members handling the actual commodity, whose interests the panel system seeks to safeguard.

The panel system has been prevailing at the associations concerned with the regulation of forward trading, all of which are incorporated companies since the inception of the associations. So, naturally, they have to work within the framework of the Companies Act. Some time after the enactment of the Companies Act, 1956, where several amendments of far-reaching consequences were undertaken and implemented, it was brought to the notice of the Government that the system of reservation of seats on the governing body for members belonging to different panels, as well as the system of panel-wise elections, were repugnant—if the hon. Members will refer to the Companies Act—to the provisions of sections 257 and 263 of the Companies Act. This factor at once rendered it essential to take steps to legalise the panel system at recognised associations. It is evident that this could be achieved by an amendment of the Forward Contracts (Regulation) Act, which would have the effect of over-riding the mandatory provisions of the Companies Act, the only reason being the nature of these associations. As I have already indicated it is of quite a different character than the normal producing, manufacturing or processing associations. These are more of a regulatory nature. Profit is not at all the motive.

it has a purely regulatory function of the different interests concerned in the best interests of the consumer and the producer.

There are two or three other relatively less important problems connected with this. One of them relates to the voting rights of members of companies with share capital. One of the associations recognised under the Forward Contracts (Regulation) Act is a company with share capital and it is likely that a few more such companies would come into being and would be recognised under the Act in the near future Section 87 of the Companies Act, 1956, provides that the voting right of a member of a company with share capital shall be in proportion to his share of the paid-up equity capital of the company; that is the usual proportional representation equal to the equity holding of a normal company. Government considers, and I have no doubt that this House will agree, that in the interest of the proper functiong of associations regulating forward trading, each member of the association should have only one vote.

The other problem relates to the appointment of proxies. Section 267 of the Companies Act lays down the right to appoint proxies to attend and vote at general meetings. In the case of associations concerned with forward trading, however, it has normally been the practice to restrict rigorously the appointment of proxies in order to check irresponsible exercise of votes or purchase of votes in case of an upset of a very extraordinary nature in the market Government, therefore, considered it very necessary to provide for such restrictions on the appointment of proxies at all recognised associations including companies with share capital.

Another minor point in the Bill is one providing for the restriction of the voting rights of members to those matters in which they are interested, so that even though a higher percentage is given to those interests they may not interfere with the real interests concerned. This provision is intended to apply in the case of associate companies with share capital. Some of the members of the companies would be interested only in profits and dividends, but not in actual trading. It is intended that these members may not have any voting rights with respect to such matters as trading bye-laws and trading procedures.

The Bill now before the House seeks to statutorily legalise the three matters that I have mentioned before the House, namely, relating to panel system, one-member-one-vote principle and the proxy system. The Bill also incorporates two other small related items. The change in the legal position resulting from the passing of the Companies Act, 1956, in regard to the panel system was not clear for a long time after the Act came into force. Consequently, many of the recognised associations held associations and elections under the panel system, not knowing that they are conflicting with the actual provisions of the Companies Act, and which was permitted by their Articles even after the Companies Act came into force It has, therefore, become necessary to validate such elections at the same time as the statutory provisions are being modified in their application to recognised associations. Further, the next elections to the Board of Directors are due in the very near future at some of the recognised associations where the penal system needs to be further revised in certain respects, for instance, to admit of a preliminary nomination by each of the panels, and a general election from out of the individuals so nominated. being a little more elaborate system it is bound to take time and, therefore, the minor provision has been introduced to validate such things and regularise them. The Government could not call upon the concerned associations to effect the necessary changes in the Articles so long as the panel system itself was invalid by virtue of the provisions of the Companies Act. The interval of time between the date on or before which they are required under the law to

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hold their elections and the day on which this Bill will become law is not sufficient for the purpose of effecting the necessary amendments to the Articles and then holding an annual general meeting for the purpose of the elections. It is, therefore, proposed to provide in the Bill for some postponement, till the appropriate date, of the elections in suitable cases, for the purpose of giving effect to the principal provisions of the Bill.

13 hours.

These are the broad objectives of the Bill and I may summarise or reiterate them for the consideration of the Members. The first is to group members of recognised associations according to functional or local interests; reserve seats on the governing bodies for members belonging to the respective groups and appoint to such reserved seats either exclusively by the members belonging to the respective groups or by all members of the association voting together or by a preliminary election by the respective group and a final election by all the members in such manner as may be specified in the constitution of the recognised associations.

Secondly, to restrict the right to vote at general meetings only to members actually interested in trading and paying such deposits as may be specified in the constitution. Thirdly, to regulate voting rights of members so as to authorise each member to have one vote irrespective of the share of the paid-up equity capital. Fourthly, to provide such other exceptions as restrictions or limitations as may, having regard to the function of the association, be considered necessary by the Commission and the Government with a view to giving effect to the above proposals. Lastly, to regularise the action taken by recognised associations whose governing bodies have been elected after the 1st April, 1956, on the grouping of the members concerned.

These are the broad objectives. The Bill is more of a nominal nature, and not of a very important amendment, excepting those in the very best interests of regulating the forward markets which had made the Government bring the original Forward Contracts Act before Parliament, namely, to regulate the forward trading to avoid and moderate the speculative tendencies of the market and to see that in a free regulated economy like that prevailing in this country, the agriculturists on the one hand and the consumers on the other are protected by the forward trading through the hedge contracts and through the non-transferable specific delivery contracts in the best interests of the national economy.

The working of the Forward Markets Commission has been placed before the House from time to time and I have no doubt that in the last two or three years, when the Commission has been functioning in several commodities, with the 12 associations that have been recognised by the Commission and those which have come into operation for the commodities which I have already mentioned, the working of the Commission on the whole has been of a helpful and a healthy nature. I have no doubt that, given these amendments and the further amendments that may be necessary in the light of experience, forward trading in this country on the pattern that we have begun will be conducive to the national economy of the country.

Mr. Speaker: Motion moved:

> "That the Bill further to amend the Forward contracts (Regulation) Act, 1952, as passed by Rajya Sabha be taken into consideration."

Shri V. P. Nayar (Quilon): I must confess, at the outset, that the explanation given by the hon. Minister was a bit disappointing to me with my experience of what the non-Minister usually says in this House. Perhaps it is because this Bill has been made over to him for piloting in this House by his colleague Shri Kanungo at the last moment. I do

not know. But we should not treat subjects of forward contracts from the point of view of this amendment and the various provisions which are embodied in the Bill before us. You will remember that the law relating to the forward contracts in this country has a history. There was an expert committee appointed to control and regulate forward contracts. That expert committee had submitted a report and on the basis of that report the original Forward Contracts (Regulation) Bill was drafted and there was a discussion in the House. We must view this amending Bill from that context, because it is not going to substantially alter the pattern of forward contracts which has been set by that Bill.

I was just going through the report of the expert committee and I find that the criticism levelled against that report by one of the hon. Members of the House who later on became a Minister—my esteemed friend Shri T. T. Krishnamachari—stands cent per cent correct today.

Shri A. C. Guha: (Barasat) Subsequently he piloted the present Act.

Shri V. P. Nayar: I am coming to that. When this Bill was introduced, I cannot describe the approach of the expert committee in better terms than what has been done by my esteemed friend Shri T. T. Krishnamachari. I am referring to this because the point in which he had some doubts have come true now and he stands cent per cent correct.

Shri Ranga (Tenlai): Vindicated.

Shri V. P. Nayar: This is what he said about the expert committee's report on the basis of which the Bill was originally drafted. On the 23rd April, 1951, he said in this House as follows, in the course of a really brilliant speech:

> "That attitude of the committee that is, the expert committee—
>
> "is typical of vested interests in this country who want government aid for carrying on their activities and prevent competitors from entering into their own special field however undesirable or desirable they might be".

I shall have to give some more quotations from the speech because I find that it is a very, very important speech. So, after the promulgation of the Act, three years after that, we have come to a stage when we are amending the existing law, giving a sort of legality with retrospective effect to what was patently illegal under a later law, I mean, the Companies Act. If you read the provisions, as we have,—the amendment is for adding a new section 9A—clause 2, where a new sub-section 9A(3) is sought to be introduced, reads like this:

> "Where before the commencement of the Forward Contracts (Regulation) Amendment Act, 1957, any rules have been made or amended in relation to any matter referred to in clauses (a) to (e) of sub-section (1), the rules so made or amended shall not be deemed to be invalid or ever to have been invalid merely by reason of the fact that the rules so made or amended are repugnant to any of the provisions of the Companies Act."

What is the position? Government say by this provision that any Act, subsequent to the promulgation of the Companies Act, which was repugnant to any provisions of the Companies Act will be deemed to be legal even if it was illegal under the Companies Act. Government are trying, by this legislation, to give a sort of legality to what was patently illegal under the Companies Act which was a subsequent Act. I ask, what is the justification for this. We have not been given a case by the hon. Minister as to why it is necessary.

Shri Manubhai Shah: I mentioned that.

Shri V. P. Nayar: I did not understand it then. But here you mention

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two sections of the Companise Act. But they are not the only sections with which we are concerned, because this will not come any longer within the scope of the Companies Act. We know that even the very mild provisions in the Companies Act are very irkesome to big business in our country, and they would like to get away from it. But why is it that in the case of the forward market associations we want the Companies Act to be kept away? The Minister of course made an attempt to argue that, but I was not convinced of a case having been proved in order to justify such a provision which gives legality to what was illegal under a particular Act.

Shri Ranga: Which has become subsequently legal.

Shri V. P. Nayar: It subsequently became illegal. It is now made legal with retrospective effect or from whatever date it operates. That is a point which I cannot understand. It is here that some interesting aspects of how the forward markets have been functioning have to be taken note of, because, in the expert committee's report, which formed the basis of the original legislation, they had very clearly stated as follows:

> "Government will do well to exercise the necessary regulation mainly by promoting the *maximum amount of self-government* on the part of the trade itself".
>
> "In some of the trades to which this matter will apply, there already exist powerful associations having considerable influence with all the important sections of the trade and one of the primary objectives of this measure should be to maintain and enhance the authority of such associations and limit the Government's intervention only to extreme emergencies."

This was the crux of the recommendation. It is about this that my hon. friend Shri Krishnamachari said, it is not at all a matter in which Government should be idle, because the big business here wants to have the cake and eat it. The expert committee want the Government to control; at the same time, they want to leave as big a field to the private enterprise as possible. So, it is in that perspective that the Bill itself was drafted. Today, seven years after the report was before us, we again come to the conclusion that in the management of forward contracts, there should be a sort of autonomy, for which they do not at all have a case. I am not going into the general merits or demerits..

Shri Ranga: The committee wanted that autonomy.

Shri V. P. Nayar: The committee wanted that autonomy and that autonomy is being given.

Shri Manubhai Shah: The other provisions of the Companies Act are not being interfered with at all in this Bill.

Shri V. P. Nayar: Here it is said:

> "the rules so made or amended shall not be deemed to be invalid or ever to have been invalid merely by reason of the fact that the rules so made or amended are repugnant to any of the provisions of the Companies Act."

I know that only sections 257 and 263 will come. I am not referring as to how it circumvents the Companies Act. That is not my point. My point is, in 1957, we have come to the original recommendation of the expert committee, which suggested that there should be complete autonomy and interference by Government should be kept to the irreducible minimum.

My point is, whether subsequent transactions as reported by the Forward Markets Commission will give us any justification for giving this undue latitude for action by these people. That is the point which I want to make. I am sorry that this

Bill, with its very important provisions, comes rather late when all of us are tired and do not have time enough to go through all the details. There is a load of material with us, but unfortunately, this is not the occasion when we can use them. But it will be interesting to see how despite the working of a forward market regulation, it was possible for the vested interests to avoid these restrictions. My hon. friend, Shri Morarji Desai, might be knowing it much better, because the maximum operation in this is in Bombay. I do not have personal knowledge of it.

Shri Manubhai Shah: It is there in Alleppey also.

Shri V. P. Nayar: In Alleppey there is; if the hon. Minister wants, I shall come to that. Here is the *Report on the Recognition of Associations in respect of Forward Contracts in Groundnut and Groundnut Oil.* There is a very interesting passage in it. I am reading from the second para in page 21:

> "Secondly, many individual traders or firms have enrolled themselves as members of the Bombay Oilseeds Exchange in more than one name. Thirdly, the present President of the Exchange has continued in office ever since the establishment of the Exchange, getting re-elected every year without any other candidate being given a chance. Forthly, the panel system has been utilised for the manipulation of elections of Directors on the Board."

Does the hon. Minister say that all these malpractices can be avoided by the legislation as it is? I doubt it very much.

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Morarji Desai): It is mainly with a view to avoid these things that these amendments have been brought forward.

Shri V. P. Nayar: I am going to say how you cannot do it. If under the present amendments all these malpractices can be avoided, then certainly I shall agree for the time being that these are very necessary. But here is a case where, when there was a Forward Contract Regulation Act, a particular association, in which very powerful vested interests have a monopolistic role, have been trying to avoid all the provisions and ultimately it came to this that one President remained a life-President almost.

Shri Morarji Desai: That will change.

Shri V. P. Nayar: That will not change. Under the new provisions, can a person be prevented from being a member in two or three names? Is there any provision under which you can take it up? Not merely that. Under this Bill, when it becomes an Act, if the association's rules are not approved by the Government or it takes a year or six months or whatever it is, till then, by the particular provision which I have read out, there is a sort of legality given to this illegal act, which becomes illegal under the Companies Act, so that, if tomorrow you pass this Bill and if a certain association which had had the manipulations indicated in the Commission's report, continue to have such manipulations without their rules being recognised officially and published in the gazette, it becomes legal.

Shri Morarji Desai: No, no.

Shri V. P. Nayar: This is what the section says. I am trying to understand it from the commonsense point of view and not with a lawyer's brain:

> "Where, before the commencement of the Forward Contracts (Regulation) Amendment Act, 1957—*i.e.* this Act—any rules have been made or amended in relation to any matter referred to in clauses (a) to (e) of subsection (1), the rules so made or amended—*i.e.* amended according to clauses (a) to (e)—shall not be deemed to be invalid or ever to have been invalid merely by reason of the fact that the rules

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so made or amended are repugnant to any of the provisions of the Companies Act."

Shri Ranga: In regard to what? In regard to the panel?

Shri V. P. Nayar: In regard to everything which is enumerated in Clauses (a) to (e). This is a doubt which I want the hon. Minister to make clear here and now. Sub-clause (2) reads:

> "No rules of a recognised association made or amended in relation to any matter referred to in clauses (a) to (e) of sub-section (1) shall have effect until they have been approved by the Central Government and published by that Government in the Official Gazette and, in approving the rules so made or amended, the Central Government may make such modifications therein as it thinks fit..." etc.

For the reasons enumerated in clauses (a) to (e), a particular association can amend the rules. These amendments take effect only when the rules are recognised officially by the Government and published in the Gazette. When they are published in the Gazette, they have a legal authority; I agree. But if Government do not publish it in time, there is nothing in this section saying that it shall be approved and published within a specific period of one month or two months; until such time as Government have chosen to get them published in the Official Gazette and thereby give a statutory authority...

Shri Manubhai Shah: I only want to interrupt to give an information to the hon. Member. Even the rules bye-laws today are approved by the Forward Markets Commission.

Shri V. P. Nayar: I am referring to the Commission; please wait. But here is a point. In the former sub-clause you say that the associations should regulate their rules in such a way and get them approved and then published in the Gazette to take effect. But in the sub-clause immediately after that you say, so long as these rules have not been approved by the Government, even if they have been framed as early as 1950, they will not be considered to offend any provisions of the Company Law which are relevant. That means, if Government commits a mistake or if Government do not approve the rules as submitted by the association for modification, amendment or whatever it may be, until they are published, no action in respect of that association which is contrary to the provisions of the Company Law can be deemed to be illegal.

That is very clear.

Shri Ranga: There can be no gain.

Shri V. P. Nayar: Otherwise there was no necessity for the subsequent provision. Maybe, that the hon. Minister or his junior colleague might hold a different view. But reading this, as it is, I am unable to see how there can be any other interpretation except this. In order to reduce my argument, I shall be very grateful if the hon. Minister, who seems to be eager to answer me, gives me some explanation now

Shri Morarji Desai: I am prepared to explain it in two sentences. The rules are rules when they are approved and have become rules. Till then they are draft rules and they are not in force. Only those rules will be upheld by this section which have been approved by the Forward Markets Commission and the Government. No other rules are in force, even if they are provided by the association. That is an ordinary matter of commonsense and common law.

Shri V. P. Nayar: I do not know where common law comes in.

Shri Manubhai Shah: Common sense.

Shri V. P. Nayar: It is ordinary common sense, I agree.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Minister wanted to be a little more charitable by saying common law.

Shri V. P. Nayar: We know common law in a particular context. So,

until such date as when Government find it possible to publish the rules of the association, such association has no validity, is that what the hon Minister says?

Shri Morarji Desai: Till then the association does not come into existence.

Shri V. P. Nayar: Here sub-clause 3 says:

> "in cases where there is no recognition by the Government of the rules of the association, no matter when these rules are formulated, such rules shall not be deemed to offend any provision..."

I think I cannot make myself more clear because it is so very simple and the answer seems to be that it is the commonsense view. Let the House exercise its abundant commonsense and find out whether I am correct or he is correct. Here we must also remember that from the working of the Forward Contracts Regulations we get an indication as to the real purpose why the forward market has been regulated in the manner it is regulated today.

I am here quoting again from another report of the Forward Markets Commission on the "Recognition of Associations in respect of Forward Contracts in Pepper" submitted to the House in November 1956. Here we get an idea as to the precise purpose for which the forward market in respect of pepper has been regulated. On page 10 it says (I am reading only one sentence):

> "The resumption of a futures market will also help the wholesalers, who act as intermediaries between the growers and exporters, to buy and store pepper during the crop movement season, and undrtake the work of assembling and garbling by hedging their purchases."

It is a commodity in which my State is very much concerned. All of us know how the price of pepper has fallen. From Rs. 5,000 per candy, which used to be the price, it has come down to Rs. 500 or Rs. 600 per candy. All the same, there is a forward market, and it is very clearly stated that one of the main purposes for maintaining this regulation in respect of forward market for pepper is to help the wholesaler, who functions as an intermediary between the grower and the exporter. Not a single word is mentioned about ensuring a better price for the grower.

I know how the pepper cultivators are exploited in our State. There are giant firms like Volkart Brothers which buy the bulk of the produce, for whose whims and caprices the pepper market can be swayed. Here they say that for wholesalers, who act as intermediaries between the poor grower and the exporter, this is a very necessary provision. This betrays the very approach in respect of controls by the Forward Markets Commission and the control they have exercised when they were allowed to operate in the matter of pepper.

There are some other interesting quotations also, which gives us an idea...

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member must have an idea of time also. Only 1½ hours have been allotted for all the stages.

Shri V. P. Nayar: I do not find any other person anxious to speak. Our experience for the last few days has been that Bills are finished long before the scheduled time.

Mr. Speaker: As the hon. Member is just saying that no other member is willing to speak, I have received a chit from Shri A. C. Guha that he may be given the next chance.

Shri Ranga: I also would like to speak.

Shri V. P. Nayar: Probably because I am speaking first. I will not read elaborate quotations and will confine myself to very important points.

[Shri V. P. Nayar]

There is a passage in the Commission's report on jute also. This gives us an idea how this can be circumvented. In the "Report on the Application of the Forward Contracts (Regulation) Act, 1952 to Raw Jute and Jute Goods" it is stated:

> "While forward trading in raw jute in any form is presently banned, it is reported that certain associations have started speculation in ready dealings, by adopting a system of trading whereby their members can enter into raw jute contracts in forms similar to those prescribed by the I J. M. A. for its specific delivery contracts. The parties to such contracts can settle their dealings on a weekly or a fortnightly basis instead of giving or taking delivery of the goods contracted. It has been brought to the notice of the Commission that such dealings do not fall within the purview of the West Bengal Raw Jute Futures Act, 1948, nor of the notification issued by the Government of India under section 17 of the Forward Contracts (Regulation) Act, 1952, which prohibits dealings in forward contracts other than non-transferable specific delivery contracts. Besides, subsequent to the closure of the futures markets in raw jute and jute goods, illicit trading in these commodities is going on in what are called the 'Katni markets' "

I do not know what is really meant by 'Katni.' Probably, it is a Bengali word. Even when the provisions are very strict, there are ways and means —any number of them—available at the disposal of such persons, whom my hon. friend, Mr. Krishnamachari, was pleased to style as 'sharks' in our economy, to circumvent them and yet they are allowed to operate and circumvent the rules. And in such a situation Government comes and clothes legality on what is patently illegal.

I submit, this is not the way it should be done. In fact, if I were not inside the House but outside, I would have immediately said: this is surreptitious taking within the competence of legislation the power to give instructions to the executive as to what course of action should be adopted. I do not want to continue in this strain. So, I would only say that Government should revise its policy in regard to the operation of forward markets.

In this connection, I would very earnestly request my young friend, Mr Shah, and also my hon. friend, Mr. Desai, to read the speech of Mr. Krishnamachari, in order to understand what the position was at the time when the House discussed it for the first time. Sir, for want of time, I shall be denying myself a very good opportunity of reading some very good and spicy quotations from the very learned speech of the present hon. Finance Minister, who was an ordinary member then. I would like them to find out whether it is not high time to prevent such deals in the forward markets, especially in respect of commodities in which we have a very good hold in the world; I do not say monopoly, but they are commodities which are exportable. Instead of getting into long term commodity agreements and thereby ensuring the price to the grower, Government now says: let there be a forward contract, which involves hedging. How is Government going to help the producer? I am at a loss to understand that. Probably, they are not interested, as has been specifically in one of the reports Their primary interest seems to be to assure the wholesaler or the exporter a chance to grab the entire products at the rock bottom prices on the pretext that he is governed by certain regulations in respect of future buying.

This is an attitude which the Government should change and I would very seriously suggest to them that another commision should be appointed to find out how best to take away from these price speculators and

manipulators and sharks certain commodities on which depend the lives of millions of our people. Considering this measure and going through the provisions of the Bill, I am inclined to think, and perhaps rightly so, that the call which the Government seems to give to this country seems to me to be forward to socialism through forward contract. This is an attitude which Government must necessarily change if they mean what they say when they talk about the socialistic pattern of society. It is not at all the way. The forward markets, as all of us know, are completely controlled by a certain group of persons, whose only object is to get the raw material or whatever it is, whether it is for export or for internal consumption, and let it be vegetable oil, let it be pepper or other spice, at the lowest price and to pay the least to the producer, whether he is a cultivator or a primary producer and then take the largest share of profit and call that as a perfectly legal action under the existing forward contract regulation.

These are the points I would like to make and I would like to get the hon. Minister's reply.

Shri A. C. Guha: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I can say that this amendment is an attempt to improve the existing Act. Mr. Nayar was all the time condemning the existing Act as also the present amendment I would not say that the existing Act has been able to do all that was desired or that was expected, but at the same time I think Mr. Nayar would not say that after the passing of the Act there has not been any improvement in the forward markets or in the speculation of commodities but under the scope of the Act. The only question is whether the improvement has been actually up to our expectations or not.

This is, I think, the first occasion when the House has got an opportunity to review the working of the Forward Market Commission after the Act was passed about five years ago. Shri Nayar was repeatedly referring to some of the utterances of the present Finance Minister. I think that was not at the time when this Act was passed. The present Act has got more or less a chequered career. It was first introduced in this House and sent to the Select Committee I think some time in 1949. Shri Nayar's references to the present Finance Ministers remarks was to that stage Then, somehow or other the Bill was not proceeded with. More or less the same Bill if not exactly the same Bill was reintroduced by the present Finance Minister as the then Commerce & Industry Minister in this House after the first General Elections in 1952 and it was passed by this House.

13.33 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

My main complaint is that during these five years it has not been possible for the Government or the Forward Markets Commission to extend the scope of this Act to some other commodities. It is more or less limited to four commodities: raw cotton, oil and oilseeds, spices and groundnuts. Groundnuts is included in oilseeds and oils So only three commodities are covered by this Act and all these commodities come practically from the western side of India. Agricultural products of other parts of India are not covered by this Act. I am glad the hon. Minister at least in his concluding portion of this speech has made some reference to the interest of the growers and the consumers.

This Act was passed with some expectation that it would not only check speculation but it would also consequently give some protection to the growers' interests as also the consumers' interests. I think the Minister in charge of the Bill also will not deny that inspite of the Forward Markets Commission, there have been still many undesirable things in the forward market It has not been possible to put a check to all undersirable speculations leading to steep fluctuations in the prices of commodities. May be such tendencies have gone down, but whether such tendencies have gone down to the desired extent or even to the

[Shri A. C. Guha]

extent that would have been practicable for the Government or for the Forward Markets Commission, is the only point to be considered. I have my own doubts that it has not been able for the Commission to do what ought to have been done.

It was mentioned by Shri Nayar that vested interests are controlling the forward markets. I think the Minister will not deny the charge altogether. After five years it may be possible for the Government to make a study of the operations of this Act and also the working of the Commission and, if necessary, a comprehensive Bill to amend this Act should be brought before this House.

We are passing through a phase of inflation and particularly in the case of agricultural commodities the market has been fluctuating rather whimsically and not always in consonance with some economic laws. This has been caused by the operations of speculators. I think the operations of this Act should be extended and should be intensified and made more effective so that these undesirable tendencies as regards price fluctuations of agricultural commodities may be checked and there may be some organisation in the hands of Government which can check and control the sepculative and inflationary tendencies in the price of agricultural commodities.

Sir, I come from West Bengal and the principal cash crop in West Bengal is jute. I know the jute market in Calcutta is not in a very healthy condition. I do not know why this Act has not been extended to the jute market of Calcutta. I appeal to the hon. Minister that he should study this question and take some measure to extend the operations of this Act to the jute market of Calcutta. I do not like to say much, but I should like simply to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to the report of the Central Jute Committee published very recently as to the workings of the speculators, middlemen and moneylenders in the jute market. The result is that the jute growers do not get in many places a fair price, but the profit is reaped mostly by the middlemen who are in some cases balers, beoparies and also moneylenders, but in most cases they are all blended together into one person or one agency operating in different forms and in different places. So, I request that the operations of this Act may also be extended to the jute market in Calcutta.

I would also like to refer to the tea market. Tea is more or less an organised industry. It is not like jute which is grown mostly by individual and small farmers. Tea is grown by big planters. So it is not in so helpless a condition and it is not a question of protecting the poor farmers as in the case of jute But still I feel that in regard to tea that is auctioned in the Calcutta market something should be done. Only two days ago there was a debate in this House on the tea market in Calcutta and Cochin. I can understand the difficulty of Government because tea is mostly an export commodity and we cannot alienate our customers or prospective customers by hasty measures here. We have to be somewhat cautious. But still I think Government should keep a watch over the tea market and should also examine whether the operations of this Act could also be extended to that market also.

Then I come to some of the provisions of this Act. As I have stated, the amending Bill is surely an attempt to improve upon the existing Act I very much welcome clause (c) of new section 9A(1) where the voting right is restricted to one vote to each member. That is surely a step towards the right direction, but I am not so sure about some other provisions. The panel system of voting is already prevalent in this, and by this amendment we are giving legal stamp to the procedure that is already prevalent in the forward market. I am not sure whether this will not lead to the vested interests being more firmly entrenched in the forward mar-

kets. I would like the hon. Minister to clarify that position. I do not like to pass any opinion on that subject, but I am not so sure about the effects of that provision. I think under the amending provisions, section 225 of the Indian Companies Act, which provides for two-thirds of the board of directors to retire by rotation, that section has more or less been allowed to be avoided by these associations. That would depend upon the rules and bylaws that would be framed by the different associations. This is a healthy provision in the Indian Companies Act—this rotation system; and it should not be just lightly allowed to be circumvented or relaxed by the various associations.

Lastly, as I have stated in the beginning, the present Act operates only for three or four commodities and there are, I think only twelve recognised associations. But there are some unrecognised associations yet operating in the market. I hope Government will take some measures either to bring them within the orbit of this Act or to take such steps as would make those unrecognised associations illegal and not be able to work in the forward markets.

Before concluding I would again appeal to the hon. Minister that the interest of the consumers, as of the growers, should also be protected and there should be some representation for them in the associations and, if possible, also in the Forward Markets Commission. The provision is: not less than two or not more than three members in that Commission Even if there are three members, I think there should be one at least to represent the consumers and the growers on rotation

With these few words I commend this Bill and I hope it will improve the operations of the forward markets and eliminate the unhealthy practices that have been existing in that market and also help to check inflation through speculation. There may be other inflationary tendencies. There may be other financial forces which would tend to promote inflation. But inflation through speculation should be checked. The advances given by the scheduled banks for foodgrains in spite of the repeated instructions from the Reserve Bank are an indication that speculation in an unhealthy manner has been going on even with regard to foodgrains. And surely hoardings through the bank advances have tended to increase the prices of foodgrains All such things should be taken care of while this Act is being operated, and I hope that this Bill will improve upon the Act.

पंडित ठाकुर दास भार्गव (हिसार) : जनाब डिप्टी स्पीकर साहब, मैं इस बिल के मैरिट्स के बारे में कुछ अर्ज नहीं करना चाहता हूं। मुझे सिर्फ एक बात अर्ज करनी है, जो कि मैरिट्स के बारे में नहीं, बल्कि उस प्रोसीड्योर के बारे में है, जो कि इस बिल में दिया हुआ है। इस सदन में जो बहुत से लैजिस्लेशन आते हैं—बिल आते हैं, उन में आम तौर पर उसूलों का एक खाका दिया हुआ होता है और एक्चुअल वर्किंग आम तौर पर रूल्ज पर छोड़ दिया जाता है और गवर्नमेंट को रूल्ज बनाने की पावर दी जाती है। उन रूल्ज को इस हाउस की मेज पर रख दिया जाता है, ताकि अगर यह पार्लियामेंट चाहे, या कोई मैम्बर चाहे, तो वह उन रूल्ज में तबदीली करा सके। बहुत सी बातों में यह हाउस डेलीगेटिड लैजिस्लेशन के जरिये से काम करता है। लेकिन इस बिल में जो तरीका दिया हुआ है, वह बिल्कुल एक नायाब तरीका है। इस बिल के मुताबिक एसोसियेशन्ज को अपने रूल्ज में तबदीली करने का अख्तियार होगा—मैं उन तबदीलियों के मैरिट्स पर नहीं जाना चाहता हूं, बहुत सी तबदीलियां शायद जरूरी ही होंगी, ताकि उन इन्ट्रेस्ट्स को प्रोटैक्ट किया जाय, जिन को बचाया जाना चाहिये—और जब वे एसोसियेशन्स रूल्ज में तबदीली कर लेंगी, तो वह गवर्नमेंट के पास एप्रूवल के लिये जायेंगे। इस सिलसिले में एक सफगार्ड रखा हुआ है कि जब तक गवर्नमेंट अपनी एप्रूवल नहीं देगी, तब तक वे रूल्ज वैलिड नहीं होंगे। जो रूल्ज अब तक बन चुके हैं, उन को गवर्नमेंट के एप्रूवल के बाद वैलिडेशन

[पंडित ठाकुर दास भार्गव]

दिया जा चुका है। उन रूल्ज की यह हैसियत होगी कि उन की रू से कम्पनीज एक्ट में तबदीली हो जायेगी। मैं अर्ज करना चाहता हूं कि इस हाउस को सब सबजैक्ट्स के मुताल्लिक लैजिस्लेशन का अख्तियार है। फार्वर्ड मार्केट्स के मुताल्लिक यह बिल इस हाउस की मरजी से पास होगा, लेकिन इस में जो प्रावीजन रखी गयी है, उस के जरिये इस हाउस की लैजिस्लेशन की पावर्ज को एसोसियेशन्ज को ट्रांसफर किया जा रहा है। गवर्नमेंट को डेलीगेटिड लैजिस्लेशन का हक मिलता है इस हाउस की मरजी से, लेकिन यह बड़ा अनयूजवल है कि यह हाउस अपने अख्तियार उन एसोसियेशन्ज को दे दे कि वे जो चाहें करें और गवर्नमेंट को वीटो का अख्तियार रहे। यह सेफगार्ड तो ठीक है, लेकिन पता नहीं कि यह कहां तक जस्टिफाइड है, अपने अख्तियारात को एसोसियेशन्ज को दे कर यह हाउस कहां तक अकलमन्दी का काम कर रहा है। गवर्नमेंट के बनाये हुए रूल्ज में अमेंडमेंट करने का इस हाउस को अख्तियार है। उस को इस बात का राइट है कि वह उन रूल्ज में चाहे जो तबदीली कर दे, उन को तोड़ मरोड़ दे, उन में माडिफिकेशन कर दे। लेकिन अगर रूल्ज बन जायें और इस हाउस में न आयें, तो कुछ भी न हो सकेगा। मैं निहायत अदब से यह अर्ज करना चाहता हूं कि इस प्रावीजन से इस हाउस के प्रैरोगेटिव्ज पर असर पड़ेगा। इस हाउस का यह प्रैरोगेटिव है—उस की वह ड्यूटी है इस देश के लिये सही कानून बनाये। हमारे दोनों हाउसिज का यह फर्ज है कि वे—उसके ७५० मैम्बर, अपनी विजडम से कंट्री को फायदा पहुंचायें। विजडम से कंट्री को महरूम किया जा रहा है। मैं यह नहीं कहता कि एसोसियेशन्ज इन रूल्ज के सिलसिले में ठीक काम नहीं करेंगी या गवर्नमेंट उन की तबदीलियों को ऐसे ही एप्रूव कर देगी। मैं इस उसूल को पसन्द नहीं करता हूं कि इस हाउस के अख्तियारात किसी और को दिये जायें। इस वक्त जो प्रीसिडेंट बन रहा है, और बातों में भी वह काम आयगा। एसोसियेशन्ज रूल्ज बनायेंगी और गवर्नमेंट उन को एप्रूव करेगी और इस तरह कम्पनीज एक्ट में बगैर इस हाउस की इत्तिला के, बगैर उस की मरजी के तब्दीली हो जायेगी। मैं यह अर्ज करना चाहता हूं कि उन रूल्ज को बनाने या तब्दील करने का अख्तियार इस सदन को है और वह अख्तियार बगैर हाउस को पूरी तवज्जह दिलाये एसोसियेशन्ज और गवर्नमेंट को दिया जा रहा है। मैं कुछ दिनों से यह टेंडेंसी देख रहा हूं कि जो हमारे प्रैरोगेटिव हैं, जो विषय इस हाउस की जुरिसडिक्शन में हैं, उन पर आहिस्ता आहिस्ता, तरकीब से गवर्नमेंट ऐजेक्टिव को अख्तियार देना चाहती है और यह मामला बढ़ता ही जा रहा है, कम नहीं हो रहा है। मैं अर्ज करना चाहता हूं कि इस हाउस को अख्तियार है कि वह अपने राइट्स को किसी भी तरह, किसी को दे दे, लेकिन मैं समझता हूं कि यह कोई वाइज डिसिजन नहीं है कि रूल्ज बन जायें, उन में तबदीली हो जाय और उन को एप्रूव कर दिया जाये और इस हाउस का वास्ता उन से न रहे और वह उन के मुताल्लिक अपनी जुरिसडिक्शन को एक्सरसाइज न कर सके। अगर इस में यह प्रावीजन रख दिया जाता कि रूल्ज इस हाउस में रखे जायेंगे, और अगर कोई मैम्बर चाहे तो उस में तबदीली की जा सकती है, तो हमें यह कहने का मौका मिलता कि इस हाउस को उन के मुताल्लिक पूरा पूरा अख्तियार है। लेकिन जब पोजीशन यह है कि इस हाउस को कहे बगैर एसोसियेशन्ज और गवर्नमेंट को रूल्ज में तबदीली करने का अख्तियार है। मैं इस स्टेट आफ थिंग्ज से हैपी नहीं हूं।

इस हाउस में एक और मौके पर भी इस तरह की चीज आई थी। पंजाब में प्रेजिडेंट का रूल हुआ था। यहां पर एक कायदा लाया गया कि इस हाउस के जो अख्तियार हैं, वे प्रेजिडेंट को दे दिये जायें, वह जैसे चाहे कर दें और रूल्स वगैरह बना दें। मैं यह अर्ज करना चाहता हूं कि एसोसियेशन्ज को अख्तियार देने और प्रेजीडेंट को अख्तियार देने में रात दिन

का फर्क है : उस वक्त भी इस हाउस ने एक कमेटी बना दी थी, जो कि प्रेजिडेंट के द्वारा बनाये गये कवायद को देख सकती थी और उन के मुताल्लिक सात दिन में रेजोल्यूशन पेश किया जा सकता था। उस तरह की प्रावीजन इस बिल में नहीं है। गवर्नमेंट को इस तरफ तवज्जह देनी चाहिये कि इस हाउस के जो अख्तियारात हैं, उन के साथ इनडायरेक्ट तरीके से, हाउस की तवज्जह दिलाये बिना इस तरह खेलना वाजिब नहीं है। इस हाउस को अख्तियार है कि वह जो चाहे करे। इस बिल में ऐसी प्रावीजन रखी जानी चाहिये कि लास्ट से इस हाउस की होनी चाहिये थी, ताकि इस हाउस की मोहर उन रूल्ज पर लगती और इस हाउस की जिम्मेदारी होती।

Shri Ranga: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, I must express my admiration to my hon. colleague, Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava, for his insistence that the House should maintain its scrutiny and its final authority over everything that the Government does, especially, in the direction of subordinate legislation. But, in regard to this particular matter, I am not able to go the whole hog with him. Because, after all, even the Government is not going to have that power. Government is giving that power to the Forward Markets Commission. The actual power is to be with the Associations. The Associations are not like our administrative statutory authorities that we establish with so many funds to administer and so on Therefore, I think he would not find fault with us if we were to agree with the Government in allowing the Government to give that power to the Associations, only to be exercised after scrutiny by the Forward Markets Commission which is to be established by us.

I wish to endorse all that has fallen from the lips of my hon. friend Shri A. C. Guha. I hope Government would give careful consideration to the points that he has made. I am anxious that the Government should ask the Forward Markets Commission to bring out a report if not once a year, once in every two years, to indicate how far its operations, really, have gone to the benefit of the growers on the one side and the consumers on the other and also for regulating and preventing the speculations that generally take place in these forward markets.

In addition to that, it is also necessary that the Forward Markets Commission should take the initiative in inducing the people in other parts of India who are interested in marketing agricultural produce to organise local associations. It is not enough that they should merely sit as a kind of censor, to see, whenever they want to organise themselves into Associations whether the draft rules are all right. They should take the initiative.

Secondly, they should also see that their operations are not confined only to one particular portion of India. To other areas also they should be extended and to other crops also. It is a well known fact,—I do not say this as a matter of disparagement; on the other hand, I would like to say it as a matter of praise—that the people in the Bombay city, Ahmedabad and other areas round about, merchants, are experts in forward markets. They have had the know-how for a number of years which the other people have not been able to develop till now. I would like the Government as well as the Forward Markets Commission to explore the possibilities of getting the good offices of these experts in order to train some other people also so that the merchants in other areas, when they want to organise themselves, could have the good offices of these experts and they would be able to operate these forward markets.

I wish to place on record our praise of the first Chairman of this Forward Markets Commission. He happened to be a friend of a number of us here, Shri Narayanaswami Naidu. He died in harness. While he was actually engaged in the work of this Commission, while he was going, I think, to Saurashtra, in the train, due to heart failure, he died. He was an honest officer and a distinguished econo-

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mist. He rendered great service to the country as a Member of the Tariff Board and later on, they made the best possible choice when they asked him to become the Chairman. I am sure the Government also would agree with me in paying a tribute to that conscientious public servant. I do not know what procedure they have and when such high officers die in harness, while serving the country, if the offices are not pensionable, whether they do anything at all to help the surviving members of the family. If the rules do not permit anything, I would like the Government to take this opportunity to reconsider the position so that, in future, other officers similarly placed might be helped.

I am anxious that the producers should be helped in some way or other. How does it happen that the cotton producers are not able to get any benefit? After the picking period is over, the stuff is placed at the hands of the ginning factories, that goes to Bombay, prices go on soaring, but they do not get anything out of it. The same thing has been referred to in regard to jute. I want the Government to make a study in regard to this matter, whether it would not be possible for them even in regard to these crops in which forward markets function to fix a certain basic price, what you call a minimum price, and then, in relation to the final prices that are paid by the final consumers, pass on a portion of the higher price realised over the whole year, to the producer. Generally, the final consumers are not individuals. They are big firms like spinning and weaving mills or combined mills. Some mechanism can be thought of, just like the equalisation policy that they have in regard to fertilisers and various other things. They should evolve some policy. I connot here and now indicate the details.

I cannot agree with my hon. friend Shri V. P. Nayar when he expressed his doubt whether the Government was doing the right thing in trying to validate things that have suddenly been found to be turning to be invalid in the light of the Companies Act.

Shri V. P. Nayar: When you don't agree, I feel flattered.

Shri Ranga: That does not matter. I need not essay a long explanation. I am sure the hon. Minister would be doing that. I can only say that I must express my satisfaction that my hon. friend has tried to make a detailed and careful study of this particular matter. What is the use of quoting what a Minister has said when he was not a Minister? When my hon. friend Shri V. P. Nayar himself comes to have a chance of becoming a Minister, he would be able to realise that all that he says now as a private Member may not possibly be sustained as a representative of the Government where the interests of all the groups of people and all interests concerned have got to be reconciled in a responsible manner.

14 hrs.

I have only two more points to make. One is to express my satisfaction that this principle of one vote to one member, which generally obtains in co-operative societies, is being introduced in this Bill. It is a very progressive thing, and I hope that with its aid it might be possible for them to avoid much of the trouble that they have come across.

Only yesterday my hon. friends were so very anxious that the price of rice should be pushed down like anything so that it will be, I suppose, within the means of the consumers. Just now he has given the information that the price of pepper used to be Rs. 500 while now it is only Rs. 50. How did it happen that from Rs. 500 it has come down to Rs. 50?

Shri V. P. Nayar: It was paid by others.

Shri Ranga: I do not grudge the pepper growers getting a higher price, but I want my hon. friends to keep the other factors, the other needs also in mind, that the rice-growers and the wheat-growers should also get a

decent and remunerative price. Just as he is anxious that there should not be this speculation and vacillation and change in prices from Rs. 500 to Rs. 50 or from Rs. 50 to Rs. 500, so also I am anxious that Government should take some active steps to see that the prices of turmeric, groundnut, tobacco and chillies are also regulated, or helped to be regulated, through the operations of this Forward Markets Commission.

Shri Manubhai Shah: I am beholden to the hon. Members who have generally supported the Bill and its clauses. It was very kind of my hon. friends Shri A. C. Guha and Shri Ranga to have reviewed the working of the Forward Markets Commission in their general remarks.

As the House is aware, the commission was appointed only in September 1953 and the detailed work of recognising the associations and markets actually started only two years back. They have covered almost eight commodities and approved and recognised twelve associations not only, as the impression in some quarters was, in some parts of India, but practically throughout the country. The associations in Delhi, Alleppey, Cochin, Madras, Adoni, Calcutta, Bombay, Rajkot, Ahmedabad and Indore have been the beneficiaries of this recognition. There has not been sufficient time yet to make, as suggested by my hon. friend Shri Guha, a detailed research and survey of the working of the commission. Even then, I can assure the House that the commission is fully alive and the Government is fully alive to the need of such a continuous survey and research, and they have in the commission itself cells, different commodity committees attached, to look after these various problems.

When the commission was appointed and when this Bill was brought before the House in 1953 the main purpose was, as I mentioned in my earlier remarks, to moderate and regulate forward trading in commodities. When the list of commodities is seen, it will be realised that commodities like tea and other commodities which some of the hon. Members have referred to cannot immediately, or for a long time to come, come within the purview of the Act. Where the commodities are principally foreign exchange earners, where they go more into exchange earning, where they are directly going to the consumer like cotton textiles or sugar, the operation of the forward market has very little place.

Similarly, when some of the hon. Members mentioned that the price mechanism of the entire national economy should be regulated through the Forward Markets Commission Act, I think a little more weightage was given by them to this commission than what is entirely possible. This commission for the forward markets is only a very minor component of the entire fiscal and monetary discipline that can govern the price and various other structures of our economy. If the hon. Members go through the annual reports of the commission, I can assure them that they will appreciate that the commission has been discharging its functions in a very appropriate and healthy and energetic manner, if only they will bear in mind the purpose for which the commission was designed It was suggested that a detailed, comprehensive survey or review could be made after five years, and I am sure that the House will be equally satisfied when that review is made.

The price fluctuations in the trade in oil, cotton and various other commodities which the commission has brought under its review have been showing a healthy trend. I would not say entirely, nor would I use the strong language which my hon. friend Shri V. P. Nayar used, because harsh words cut no ice. All such anti-social tendencies have got to be regulated, and that is the primary function of this Act. The main purpose when the Act was passed was, and the main purpose and principal function of the commission today when the Act is being administered are to see that the anti-social elements which are given to this type of trade

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activity like kerb trading, *tezi mandis*, cornering, squeezing the market etc., are constantly looked into, and therefore, the major objective of this commission has been constantly kept in mind by the Government.

Shri V. P. Nayar: May I interrupt him for a minute? If the hon. Minister says that I have used harsh words, he is not correct, because I was only quoting from his esteemed colleague Shri T. T. Krishnamachari.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He could also use.

Shri V. P. Nayar: Why should I be given the credit? I used only the least harsh words, because Shri T. T. Krishnamachari said that it was not a Bill dealing with respectable persons.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Do they become less harsh because they had been used earlier by somebody else?

Shri V. P. Nayar: I am only pointing out that he said that the Bill was meant to deal with persons who could be as fierce as sharks and tigers where their interests were concerned. I did not go to such an extent. I only took the first word.

Shri Manubhai Shah: I can only say that even endorsing somebody else's remark on a point does not make the thing less bitting or anything like that.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He only meant to say that he was not as harsh as that Member, but he was harsher probably!

Shri Manubhai Shah: I have no objection to the Hon. Member saying what he thinks best, but what I meant was that all these anti-social activities, which are always prevalent in a society, and more so in a country like ours which is under-developed and is trying to develop itself, have got to be looked into, and the Government, as I was just now mentioning, is constantly aware of that.

There was a suggestion from Shri Guha that this commission should have a representative on it of the consumers, agriculturists and various other interests concerned. There are only three members on the commission and they have to deal with a number of commodities, from a dozen to two dozen, and there are different centres. The commission's composition was never intended to see that every type of interest could be represented, since it is such a small body of only three members. But the Government while appointing the members does see to it that they are experts knowing the working of the markets where it concerns the various interests like producers, the growers, the consumers, the merchants, the middlemen, the importers, exporters etc. We have commodity committees to advise on different commodity markets.

Here I would wholeheartedly agree with the tributes paid by my hon. friend Shri Ranga to the late Dr. Narayanaswamy Naidu who unfortunately died before my very eyes in my State when he had come there to recognise the oilseeds association there. The Government of India in appointing such a great expert and a noble man like Dr. Narayanaswamy Naidu to start such an important commission had really chosen the right type of person, and I would join, and I know the whole House will join, in paying tributes to Dr. Narayanaswamy Naidu who initiated this Forward Markets Commission.

Coming to the point, my hon. friend Shri Guha mentioned that the interests of the growers must be protected. I wholly agree with the views expressed by him. That is the intention of this Act and the intention of the Government, namely to see that the grower who is the biggest under-dog in this country, the small producer in the field, is properly protected.

What I wanted to submit was this, that it is not through the mechanism of the Forward Markets Commission

alone that the grower could be protected. There are various mechanism adopted by Government, the Agriculture Ministry, the consuming Ministries, the markets, various centres where all producers, consumers and different interests really come together. For instance, price support, which Government have been initiating from time to time in respect of different commodities, has been one of the major contributory factors to protect the interests of the grower. As a matter of fact, as far as this particular Act and the Commission are concerned, the commodities they really take over are more of a processing nature, as I have mentioned earlier—neither wheat nor gram nor foodgrains. The Government have been so strict that so far they have prohibited totally trading, whether it is of a specific non-transferable delivery nature or whether it is of a hedge contract nature or whether it is anything except spot and ready market. They have done so in the interests of the consumers as well as growers, because if such commodities went into the spiral of speculation, the results would be very unhealthy and undesirable. So I can assure the House as far as the particular work of the Commission is concerned, that all the points that they have mentioned today are being kept constantly in mind and will continue to be continuously looked after by Government.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava mentioned about subordinate and delegated legislation. I was rather wondering when he was mentioning with some emphasis the point that what Government were doing was something extraordinary. I submit it is nothing of the kind. All that we have done is in pursuance of the principles which the House today is endorsing, that it is better in such associations which are not of a producing or manufacturing type, which are not companies which are designed only for a particular business, but which are of a nature where balancing and moderation of different interests concerned is very desirable, the panel system of representation on the governing body is preferable to mere voting according to shareholding. I am very glad that my hon. friend, Shri Ranga, said that the principle of one person one vote is very healthy and should be adopted in this panel. That is precisely what this amending Bill does.

Shri V. P. Nayar: How does he prevent manipulation?

Shri Manubhai Shah: I will come to that also if am allowed to proceed.

Unlike companies where the votes are proportionate to the shareholding, here in this particular type of association, it is the system of panel or group representation that we have tried to establish. I may give only a small instance. In a particular association, the number of buyers is 73, sellers 136, brokers 272 and associate members 223. Here, practically but for the buyers, the brokers will be dominating the scene. Instead of that, the panel system of representation gives 4 representatives to the buyers, 4 to the sellers and 4 to the brokers and 2 to the associate members. This shows how there is a well thought-out and desirable balancing brought about by the amending Bill.

While giving recognition or approval to healthier principles which the Government and the House today prefer to accept, Government, if they endorse the rules and regulations obtaining uptil now, are not doing something which is contrary to the wishes of the House. As a matter of fact, I would be one with Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava to see that the complete supermacy of the House prevails and their wishes are always constantly borne in mind and carried out not only by the government of the day but by all those concerned with the fair name of administration.

Even in this regard where approval is sought to be given to regularise what was done under the existing provisions of the Companies Act, I submit that any rules or bye-laws of any association since the Act came into operation have been considered

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valid only after they are scrutinised by the Forward Markets Commission, their recommendations are sent to the Ministry and the Ministry, in the light of the views, objectives and the general directions that the House has endorsed from time to time, scrutinise those recommendations from that angle and approve them. So the approval that is being today regularised and made valid is nothing which is different from what the House has generally endorsed.

Coming to the last point, Shri V. P. Nayar mentioned about validating something which is invalid or trying to see that the entire operation of this Act disregards the provisions of the company law. I may repeat what I had said when he was speaking that excepting the provisions in which the amendment is to be sought, the rest of the provisions of the Companies Act still continue and will continue to govern all the rest of the working of the associations recognised by the Forward Markets Commission.

I would once again thank hon. Members for having given their approval to the principles and clauses of the Bill.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I shall now put the motion for consideration to vote. The question is:

> "That the Bill further to amend the Forward Contracts (Regulation) Act, 1952, as passed by Rajya Sabha be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 2, 3, and 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

Shri Manubhai Shah:. I beg to move:

> "That the Bill be passed".

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

> "That the Bill be passed".

The motion was adopted.

FOOD SITUATION IN WEST BENGAL

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty (Basirhat): I am glad that this House has at last had an opportunity of discussing the food situation in West Bengal.

Never since 1943 has the food situation in West Bengal been as serious as it is today. At that time, the British Government, which was in power, refused to accept the position that thousands were dying of hunger and it was only as an *ex post facto* investigation that the official inquiry showed that 18 lakhs of people had died, though unofficially we knew that 36 lakhs died. The same pig-headed obstinacy has persisted in denying the seriousness of the food situation that has been growing more serious every day during the last three months. Starvation deaths are yet few in number, but they have begun. But they are brushed aside with the same callousness as did our erstwhile rulers.

Fourteen years after the worst ever famine that my State saw and 10 years after independence, there is one question that you will hear from the lips of everyone in West Bengal: will 1943 be repeated? Already in Calcutta, you will see peasant families, women with little emaciated babies in their arms, driven by hunger and unemployment, trekking the streets of Calcutta, hoping that they will be able somehow to eke out an existence, if not by work, at least by begging.

From my own constituency of Sunderbans, I have seen an entire family which has come away from Minakha, from Harwa. If you go to Sham Bazar in the northern outskirts of the city, under the Balliaghat bridge span, you will find there little sheds. Only the other day in answer to a question, the hon. Minister of Rehabilitation said that all the refugees staying in Sealdah—a very large number—have now been added on by those who are now coming from outside because of hunger.

In the streets and by-lanes of Calcutta, you can hear the shrill cry: "Give us a handful of rice". To us, Calcutta dwellers, it gives a chill which runs down our backs as we remember those terrible days of 1943 when we used to hear the frantic appeals of tens of thousands of people who just wanted a handful of *kanji*.

The most amazing is the way the Government has played about with the entire question of food. I charge the Government that it is they who are responsible for the terrible condition as it exists today. It is man-made largely, of course now aggravated by the drought conditions that have developed in my State. It has brought tremendous suffering and starvation to millions of our people. I say this because you will find that rice is there. In certain parts of our State itself as well as in various other States in India, there have been bumper crops and yet today, can we not ask why people starve?

The first stock answer which is given to us is that there have been floods and that is why production has been affected. I do not deny that in certain areas, there has been lowering of the production figures. But, what about the overall figure? For instance, we have just been supplied by the West Bengal Government the figures which show that the increase in the average production during the first five years after independence was only 2.25 lakhs and in the next 5 years, it was over 6.5 lakh tons. Only the other day, I was reading a very remarkable article which appeared in the *Hindustan Standard* and that showed the answer very clearly to the stock arguments that have been trotted out that there has been lowering of the production. Actually, during 1956-57, whilst the population has been estimated to have increased by 9 per cent, they say that rice production improved by 21 per cent and the price of rice went up by 37 per cent over 1949-50.

Not only that; we are told now that the cultivator has now become richer by the higher price for his produce and consumes more rice. A very interesting sort of plea has been put forward by the Asoka Mehta Committee where they say that during the last few years, the production of foodgrains in the country has shown an upward trend but the per capita consumption has declined as compared to pre-war years. Therefore, to say that people are consuming more because they have more money and not to go to the crux of the matter is, I think, trying to avoid the issue and that is exactly what our Government has done.

I should like to point out that we have tried again and again, both at the Centre and in the State, to show that there has been an amount of hoarding. I remember at one time in 1956, if I remember correctly, it was in July or September or a little later, when we asked two supplementary questions in this House, when we asked our Food and Agriculture Minister, Shri Jain, whether he was contemplating to take action against the hoarding, he said that Government did not think it necessary.

What has been the result? This year, as we have heard, in Andhra there has been a bumper crop unlike any they have seen for many years, and yet we know that much of that is being cornered by the trade, by the millers and it is outside our scope. When we had a meeting with the Food Minister, I remember, I told him that in the Sunderbans areas, certain parts of it had been affected by floods but certain other parts had a very good bumper crop and I have seen with my own eyes that hundreds of cartloads, lorryloads and boatloads of rice going away and taken away by the trade. We are told that it has been smuggled across to Pakistan. What is the use of telling us so at this late stage, when we are already facing a very serious situation?

A very interesting answer was given on the 30th August, 1956, to a

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question of Shri Khub Chand Sodhia. It was stated in the answer that the Central Government had bought in 1955, 123,500 tons of foodgrains from the open market in India but in 1956 they had only bought 2,21,000 tons. What is the reason for it? It was an amazing figure that was given and I am afraid it escaped our notice at that time. This has been going on for a very long time. I have looked up the statement which was placed on the Table of this House in August 1956 by Dr. Deshmukh and he said that there has been steady increase in prices of rice in the south, and what is the way out that he suggests? He says, 'The Government of India have already taken the following measures to check the rising tendency in the prices of foodgrains in the country', and No. 2 is the stoppage of purchase of foodgrains by Government in the internal market.

I say this because today, the Central Government and the State Government and, of course, the people are faced with this situation, when there is a tremendous shortage and the people have lost the purchasing power. We are unable to give them rice at a level of price at which they can buy it. What help is given from the Government will be in the form of gratituitous relief and subsidised rationing. Rs. 17/8 and Rs. 16/- are high even for a large portion of the people living in the cities and far more so for those who live in the villages.

Imports have been slashed down; that is known to everybody. Now we are in the position of having to buy at a far higher rate and the whole basis of the Plan almost gets upset. People are taxed more because they say that the Plan is floundering and they have to be taxed more. But, who has actually created this situation? I say that it is the food policy of the Government of India

This year in my State it is an amazing position that on August 21, a few days before the promulgation of the Ordinance for the seizing of foodgrains, Shri P. C. Sen, the Minister of Food and Agriculture in my State, said: 'I do not deny the existence of hoarders.' He said that there were only a few. It was only after a great amount of agitation was there that.....

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): On a point of order, Sir. Should this House discuss a statement made by the Minister of a State who is not present here to answer the points raised?

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: I am not saying anything except that he has said in his communique.....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: We cannot discuss the statement. But, sometimes, to support their assertions reference can be made to what the Minister has stated. We cannot discuss it.

Shri **Punnoose** (Ambalapuzha): Am I to understand that the hon. Minister will not defend his counterpart in this House?

Shri A. P Jain He does not need any defence

An hon. Member: I think he needs defence.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: I do not think any explanatory statement is needed He has, in his statement to the Press, said that he did not deny that. Not only that. I can quote our hon. friend Shri A. K Sen, the Law Minister. He said that there was not very much of hoarding over there. We know that today the position is that the amount that has been hoarded is more than what was stated at the first instance even by the Food and Agriculture Minister of my State. We know what has happened after the Ordinance.

I hope the hon. Food Minister will note this In Midnapur there was a hoarded stock of rice. Some say it was even 20 lakh mds. in the 65 mills of the district In June, 1957, the Mill Owners Association did offer to give 4 lakh mds of rice at Rs. 15/- if the Government would supply wagons.

When Shri Sarju Roy, M.L.A. asked on the floor of the Assembly, our Food Minister remained silent. When the Ordinance was promulgated and the hoard was seized, it was found that in the whole district there were only 1 lakh mds. which were available It is in the papers and nobody has refuted it. The *Ananda Bazar Patrika* has given details as to how the hoards are slipping out even in places where they have been freezed. This is a matter which is of concern to the people of Bengal because the Ordinance itself says that there was some stock hoarding. Today we know that they have all gone underground and the Government machinery is all corrupt and it is not able to check it

In the statement that has been given to us today we find certain remarks made which show that Government itself has realised how much corruption there is and what is the state of distribution in my State. The entire history of the Supply Directorate has shown that the atta that is put into the Supply Directorate's Wagons, when it comes out, it is something else and it is inedible. During the last 2 months people have said that the atta you give from the modified ration shops is impossible to eat. Then, again, even that atta has not been available in the shops. When we raised it with the hon. Deputy Minister of the Union Government, he told us that he had given enough atta and yet we find no atta there. So, this is another question which has to be resolved. We have seen the modified ration shops. we have seen the fair price shops and all these and we are sceptical about this

Price too is very important in this respect because a large portion of the people have lost the purchasing power, especially so in the districts, because we have had drought conditions. And, as the hon Minister himself has acknowledged in his statement, at this time of the year, it is the landless labourers, the poor peasantry and even others, even a part of the rich peasantry is being affected because they have not been able to carry on cultivation. Of special difficulty has been the fate of agricultural labour and poor peasantry. The question of giving relief has assumed great importance. From the statement I find that 25 per cent has to be earmarked for relief.

There are very few modified ration shops. The other actual factor of objective reality is that people who are actually starving cannot buy because of what of wherewithal and the question of test relief has become very important I have heard from some of the villages in my constituency that they are starving to the extent that they are unable to get one meal a day. There are cases where people have even sold their children. Such extreme cases are there. The position is very desperate. That is why the question of relief is very important.

A few days ago, there was a remarkable article in the *Statesman* from Murshidabad. A reporter of that paper went to one of the pawn brokers and he said: "If I had enough money, within three hours of the opening of the shop, I could purchase gold and silver worth Rs. 20,000. Even after the floods people did not part with their valuables. But, since June this year, the position has gone much beyond their power." That is the true position.

That is why I want to plead with the hon. Minister. When he lays down a policy, he has to realise that a very large part of the people in the districts are unable to take the rice which he is going to give through Government rationing shops. That is why the question of giving relief has assumed so much importance. Even in the city of Calcutta, the demand is that it should be Rs. 15 per maund and not more than that because even there today the middle class and the lower middle-class are unable to purchase at higher rates than that.

On September 8, we find the price of coarse rice is Rs 26 and that of

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fine rice is Rs. 33 per maund. Our biggest fastivals, the pujas are approaching. The children are waiting, hoping that for these few weeks in the year, they are going to enjoy. Today, fine rice is selling at Rs. 33; there has been an increase of Rs. 4 or Rs. 5 in the last one month in the rationing shops. I find that there has been an increase in the rationing shops but in a large number of these shops, rice is not available

As a matter of fact, I have got a letter from my mother and she says that for the last two or three days, she has been going round and round only to get some atta She says:

> "We can purchase it at usual rates. But, I am unable to get even a little bit of atta and only with a great deal of trouble I got some from the *chakiwala*. But that is so mixed that it is almost impossible to eat it. But, what can we do? We have to eat this inedible."

This is the letter from my mother which I got yesterday. If this is the condition of my family, you can imagine what the condition is in the families of those who are unable to buy from outside sources. This is the position as far as Calcutta goes.

We have to give up the complacency. When I heard Shri A. K Sen's statement yesterday and also when I read the statement made by Shri P. C. Sen, West Bengal's Food Minister, I was amazed at their attitude We are told that we are going to get 60,000 tons of wheat and 20,000 tons of rice for Bengal. We are glad that the hon. Minister has said that he was giving all that the West Bengal had asked for. We have to see that people in the whole of Calcutta, in the industrial belt get their rations. Without that, it is not possible to check the anti-social tendencies that are continuing

All of us have been enumerated for ration cards some two or three weeks ago. But, even today we have not got the ration cards. On paper the hon. Minister will be able to say that so many people have been issued ration cards. If you check it up, you will find how few are the people who have got these ration cards.

The amount that has been stipulated here is nine ounces per day. That is the central quota. But the total quota which is to be given from these shops is one seer of rice and one seer of atta. This is completely insufficient. At least three seers per adult should be given.

It has been stated that we are going to have approved shops. But, how are going to check these shops? We have been told that there is going to be a better system of inspection to check the distributive machinery. What is this overhauling of the distributive machinery? Meanwhile stocks are going into the black market and hoarders profit. People are suffering What is the step we are taking. We know how these hoarders have links with many of the Ministers and that is why they are rushing and are circumventing all the laws.

Consumers' resistance is sought to be built up by means of publicising the prices and in some other ways. I want to say this. Let the names of the firms and individuals who have stocked rice and from whom they have been seized and also the names of firms for which advance had been given against stocks of rice be made public. If there is any hoarding, let stern measures be taken against them. The Preventive Detention Act which has been used against political parties be used, as long as it is on the statute book, against such people It has been said that it is going to be used against anti-social people Let it be used. Let us not hear from the mouths of Ministers that there is no hoarding.

If there is no hoarding, where have things gone? We have rice; we have atta but where have they gone. Even today, people of Bengal are suffering.

The prices have not gone down in spite of the efforts of the Union Minister. We are not yet safe; the position is bad and with all the steps taken by the Government till now, it has gone from bad to worse. We have not been able to tackle it.

The question of relief is of foremost importance. If the hon. Minister is hopeful about the *aman* crops, I want to disillusion him. Even in those districts where we have got *aman* crops, not more than 25 per cent of the crops will be there and unless new steps are taken and new loans are given—it again depends upon the whims of the State Governments—I am afraid we cannot depend upon the *aman* crop. That is why it is a long-drawn out agony through which we in Bengal are going to pass through and that is why the State and the Union Governments and the people should co-operate to eliminate corruption, hoarding and other malpractices prevalent which lead to destitution, starvation and misery of our people

Dr. R. Banerji (Bankura) Sir, I thank you very much for giving me some time for expressing my views in connection with the food situation, especially in my own State of West Bengal. It is causing a great headache to the people and also to the Government. Otherwise, it would not have been possible to allow the debate on this particular subject of food so many times.

The policy of food, as is being followed by the Government at least this year, is found to be one of vacillation. That vacillation began from the very beginning and it is still continuing.

The position that has been created, which could be called more or less critical, in connection with food, especially with respect to my State of West Bengal, I should say, can be divided into different stages. The first is a stage of, say, complacency. Before March 1957 we were given to understand that by the First Five Year Plan we have produced enough food and we have arranged for such a large production that only a small import from outside will be sufficient for our consumption, and we need not bother about food in the Second Five Year Plan, simply we should direct our attention for industrialisation of the country. That complacency was not only in the Government but it as also there in the public.

Within a short time, after March or April 1957, the bubble of complacency exploded, and it was found that foodgrains were neither easily available nor were they sold at prices at which they used to be sold before. As a result, there was a sort of demand for food. Then the Central Government *vis-a-vis* the State Governments came forward with statements that we are not in dearth of food and that we can supply any amount whenever necessary. This may be called the stage of assurances. But these assurances either *from* the State Governments or from the Central Government did not bring down the prices, and the prices went on soaring. There were many deputations and representatives met the Central Food Minister. Further assurances were given then that we would be able to meet the situation.

But, within a short time people used to be given advices, especially in my State, that they should change their habits, that they should switch on from taking more rice to partially taking wheat and partially rice. When this statement came out, practically speaking, the price of available rice became very very high, and this high price was beyond the reach of many people. This produced an agitation. There was agitation amongst the people who were not getting rice, agitation by the people who were interested, or who were having vested interest over the food policy, and it was even made a sort of a political issue. As a result the agitation was very large.

It was always stated by the different parties, and even supported by

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Government, that it is the hoarders who are responsible for making food not available to the people or making their price very high. As a result, practically speaking I should say, Government was made an easy prey to these kinds of statements. It was actually believed that there was a large amount of hoarding of food. At least I should like to say that I was given to understand in the area in which I was living that there are lakhs and lakhs maunds of rice which are being hoarded either by the millowners, or by parties taking advances from the Reserve Bank etc., or by people who have earned a lot in this profession and they have been keeping large quantity of food away from the market.

The Government, without taking into consideration all the facts that were put into circulation, also believed in these statements and went on with the Bill for seizure of the essential commodities etc. Actually, when the seizure came in, they found that in Calcutta they could not even get sufficient quantity of food to supply the needs of Calcutta for three or four days. In the district towns it was not found to meet the demands of a day even. But this seizure caused a great unrest. That unrest is still continuing because of the absence of a determined policy on the part of the Government and the existence of the same vacillating spirit.

Why? Because as a result of the seizure of stocks what has happened is that the mills are practically closed. They are not purchasing paddy. The producers might have a certain amount of excess which they would like to sell away before the next harvesting season. But there are no buyers. The millowners are not inclined to buy. They say, we do not know actually what the intention of the Government is, what price the Government is going to fix. As a result of that the growers have got a certain amount of excess which are remaining with them. The millowners are not purchasing any paddy and they have practically closed their mills. Consequently the people are not getting rice. The consumers are feeling difficulty in getting rice. They are paying very high prices. That is why I say that the same vacillating policy of the Government in connection with food is still continuing as it is, which began in the beginning of 1957.

Today I have heard the hon. Minister has made some statement in connection with the supply of food to West Bengal, so many thousands of tons partially in wheat and partially in rice. Whatever it may be, I am sure, it might be very well distributed or may not be very well distributed in Calcutta, in the rural areas the distress and suffering of the people is immense. I can tell you that rice is never being sold below Rs. 23 a maund in any district. Of course, the Government has opened a few fair-price shops. But the quality of rice that is being supplied there is not fit for human consumption, it should be called 'cattle fodder'. I am sure even the cattle will feel shy to take that rice when it is boiled. As a result of that large quantity of food which is available to the poor people is sold at the rate of Rs. 23 a maund. You can just imagine the fate of the poor people during these days when rice is sold at Rs. 23 a maund, when there is so much scarcity and inflation in the country. Test relief works are going on. A man employed there is only expected to get Rs. 1|4|-. A couple working together simply on earth digging or some such thing, if they have four children and for Rs. 1-4-0 if they get 1¼ seers of rice at the rate I mentioned, is it sufficient for 24 hours to keep six souls alive? Of course the Government will always deny starvation deaths, but it is undoubtedly causing malnutrition. In spite of the fact that there are certain stocks still left with the growers, the mills are sitting idle and large quantities of rice can

still be made available in the market, as a result of the seizure that is not made available.

Another effect that the seizure of foodgrains has produced is that, practically, the Government has been compelled to accept a higher price for food than it was prevailing in the market. Practically speaking, it has committed to pay at an average of the last three months' market price which comes to Rs. 22 or Rs. 21-8-0 a maund. That has also become another hardship to the consumers, and the Government is not in a position to supply them in large quantities

Therefore, my humble prayer for the rural people is that the Government be requested to go in a planned way from the very beginning. Without depending on hearsay, without simply depending upon calculation with pen and pencil by the officers the Government should actually try to find out what is the production in the different States, and what is the production in the whole country, what will be the expected production, what is the actual production, what will be our requirements and how much we will be required to import Without doing these things in a proper and determined way, this type of vacillation is causing much hardship to the people in the rural areas. My friend Shrimati Renu Chakravartty just now said that her mother is not getting flour. That is in Calcutta. I can say that hundreds of people like that in rural areas are not getting rice, and the rice that is made available at the fair-price shops is uneatable.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member should try to conclude now.

Dr. R. Banerji: Thank you very much, Sir. More than that I have got nothing to say.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Shri T. K. Chaudhuri: I would request the hon. Members to condense their remarks within ten minutes.

Shri T. K. Chaudhuri (Berhampore): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, a few weeks ago, while participating in the discussion on another subject relating to West Bengal, I had the occasion to call West Bengal, a Godforsaken province. I cannot refer here to the State Government, but so far as the Central Government is concerned, although we are aware that the Central Food Minister has been active recently in the matter of meeting the situation in West Bengal, it has been our misfortune that somehow or other the woes of West Bengal are not noticed here.

I will give you some instances from the Address of the President to Parliament. There, the food situation and food scarcity in three or four States were mentioned. But unfortunately in West Bengal we had an unprecedented flood last year; we had drought. All the four successive crops including the *rabi* crop this year failed, but our food situation, our difficulties, failed to find any mention in that Address. Of course, when we brought that to the notice of the hon. Food Minister, he met us, the Members of Parliament from West Bengal, in an informal meeting. He did that a second time, also, but we cannot say that these confabulations have brought much result.

The speaker who preceded me suggested by way of reference to the complacency of the Government. I fail to understand, the responsibilities of these governments for maintaining the supply of food in the country being what they are, how they could remain complacent to the series of misfortunes that have overtaken West Bengal One of the main factors in the situation is that they have always depended upon certain paper calculations. I tried to bring certain facts to the notice of the Government, but unfortunately I do not know what has happened with regard to my suggestions. Originally and even early this year, the food situation in West Bengal was acute, but not what it is today. There was actual failure of crops in three districts Murshidabad, Nadia and 24 Parganas and even in these three districts, there were limited regions, pockets so to say, which

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were affected by drought or floods, and if supplies could be rushed to these places in time, then perhaps we would not have witnessed the scenes that we are witnessing today.

Language fails to describe the misery that is stalking West Bengal both in the countryside and even in urban areas. I would refer to one case recently in Calcutta where husband and wife were found soliciting for selling the body of the wife. They pleaded in court that they had no other alternative and they were starving for several days. I would request the hon. Minister and every Member in this House to go through the judgment that was given in that case by the magistrate of that court. Not only is this an isolated case. The hon. Minister has referred to the question of refugees who have not been rehabilitated. Do you know what is the actual position of refugees in Sealdah Station today? How many people are dying every day? I made that statement sometime ago and it was challenged by the hon. Minister of Rehabilitation that my statement was not correct. Every paper published the facts on which my statement was based. Papers publish photographs. We fail to understand what are the avenues and what are the ways in which we have to bring the facts of our misery before the Government. There is sheer starvation. It is no longer a shadow of famine Famine is stalking round the countryside in the three districts which he has mentioned—24 Parganas, Nadia and Murshidabad. I hope our friend Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri will presently describe the conditions in Nadia. In all these three districts, it is not merely distress; it is not merely scarcity or acute food condtion; it is real famine, full-scale famine and starvation by death that is actually prevailing. That is why I implore the Government not to rest satisfied with supplying what requisitions the West Bengal Government have made. They have their own agencies; they have their own responsibilities. I am not concerned here with what the West Bengal Government is doing or not doing. But I think, although I do not know whether the hon. Minister will agree with me, that this Government, the Central Government, has also a responsibility for keeping up supplies there at least to see that people get food and that food is made available to them. That is what we can expect and we hope that they will do it at least. That is their responsibility under the Constitution, at least that is as we have understood the Constitution.

Far be it from me to hold out any threats. But let nobody understand me amiss. The situation is really much more serious than the government think. Already isolated instances of food riots have occurred and people will not this time submit to these hardships quietly. This much at least I am very certain of. I would implore upon the Minister to realise this. I from this side can speak on behalf of my Communist friends and of all Opposition parties in West Bengal; particularly, all of us—not only in the Opposition benches—every Member of Parliament from West Bengal belonging to every party will be prepared to co-operate with this Government and with the State Government to find a solution for this problem. The situation is much more serious than what we find described here in the statement. I would implore upon the Government to take note of that fact.

Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri: (Nabadwip): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, when the Calling Attention Motion came up before this House and the names were stated, it would have been realised that this is a question that has crossed all party barriers, and where West Bengal is concerned, as the hon. speaker opposite just now said, I think all parties and everybody in West Bengal will be prepared to cooperate with the Government to tide over the serious situation.

Before I come to my own particular constituency, I want to put one or two points to the Minister. When

we think of prices, there are two aspects about food prices, we have to consider, food prices as received by the grower and the food prices as paid by the consumer. In India these two prices fluctuate with a big margin and very often, the grower does not get as much as the consumers pay. So, the Government must find a way to have some sort of stabilisation of the prices. We find that the poor peasants do not have money to buy the wherewithals of life and the consumers also have been put to great disadvantage, having to pay as much as Rs. 27 or Rs. 28 per maund for rice. Even in my district in Nadia, in the very place I stay, namely, Swarupganj, a few days back the price of rice rose to Rs. 27 per maund. In spite of the fairprice shops that have been opened by the Government, the people are badly in need of relief in West Bengal.

15 hrs.

After the Food Minister's visit to Calcutta, we were very happy to hear that 80,000 tons of rice would be made available for West Bengal. But I want to submit that not only the fairprice shops be opened, but relief must be given, because we cannot really depend on the *aus* and *aman* crop that we are hoping for. There is a saying in Bengal that it is only when "Lakshmi comes into the house that we can be sure of her". This year we cannot be sure of Lakshmi at all. She is crying in the fields of Bengal and I do not know how we can bring her into our homes. In rural areas of Bengal, the price of rice has to be brought down.

In small district towns where you have opened a certain number of fairprice shops, my suggestion is you open more fairprice shops in the interior, so that the stocks taken away from the small district towns are not again depleted, because the small district population is put to a great deal of hardship.

I would like to bring to the notice of the House certain other facts also. The Minister said in his statement today that practically a crore of ration cards might be made available. Already there are some thousands. The figure goes into astronomical numbers. I would like to point out that although ration cards are available, there is not the money to buy the rations. All these ration cards may be there, but what good is the ration card if I am not able to take the rice at Rs. 17-8-0 a maund and wheat at Rs. 15 a maund and if the money is not there to buy it at that price? I will give you one example. Of course, it is from a communist paper *Swadhinta*, but it happens to be true, which is not always the case. But I know the district myself and so I corroborate their opinion that in Swarupganj union itself, which is a union of about 16,000 people, ration cards have been issued, but about half the number have not been able to take any rations on them. Actually speaking, only 5,200 people have been able to take the rations on their ration cards and the rest 10,400 have not been able to take rations at all. So, that means that they are practically on a very low subsistence level, and that would apply to 70 per cent people of Nadia.

Of course, the paper has also put in some extraneous matter which really cannot come into the picture. I come from that district and my coming from that district can only have that effect that I can bring this position to the notice of the hon. Minister. I hope that my name being put into that column will have this effect that the Minister will take note of the fact that the ration cards might be there, but the money to buy the rations is not in the hands of the rural population. So, right up to December you must continue your test relief work. Relief work must go on in spite of every kind of ration shop that you may open. Of course, the Centre has been generous; 80,000 tons of rice have been promised and I hope all the help that the Centre can give will be forthcoming. But the relief question must really be in the mind of the Centre; relief should

[Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri]

not be stopped, because it is only on that slender thread that the life of the rural population of West Bengal is hanging today.

It is really true that the dire want is rice in West Bengal. If you look at the faces of the peasantry and their emaciated bodies, you will know that ration shops and ration cards cannot help them, because there is no money in their hands. I will also pose a long-term policy to the Minister. Although irrigation projects are there, the common peasant has never felt the effect of it. He has never been able to take any advantage of the irrigation facilities. Therefore, I would say that the D.V.C. and other project waters should be available for the next three years without any kind of cess or tax to convince the peasant that it is doing them good. Unless that is done, I do not think we can increase the production and increasing production is the only way in which one can ultimately tide over this situation. Also, there should be quick carriage of things like vegetables and fruit crops, apart from foodgrains, because it is only by these crops that the peasantry will get a little money at least in their hands to utilise the ration cards that have been made available to them.

In West Bengal today the dire necessity of carrying on relief work cannot be over-stressed. I hope that the Minister will consider these aspects and see that West Bengal does not really have a repetition of the 1943 famine. As my hon. friend, Shri T. K. Choudhuri, has said, it is true that there have been small food riots. I have myself been confronted with 400 or 500 people standing ready to loot any food lorry that went by. It was only after much persuasion and many promises by the District Magistrate and myself that they were persuaded to go back and the lorry was not looted. But these things have started happening. It is something that the Centre and the State Government must take note of, join hands and co-operate in every way to tide over this situation. I am sure in this respect there will be no political barriers and I hope every co-operation will be assured from all political parties to tide over this great crisis in West Bengal and save the people.

Shri Ghosal (Uluberia): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, of course, I am not going to describe the misery of West Bengal and the food scarcity there, because the previous speakers have already described it. Only the root cause why the people of West Bengal came to the threshold of this situation has to be taken into consideration.

First of all, the defect was in the jugglery of statistics, because from the month of May, we have been hearing in this House that there is sufficient production of food and production has been so much that there is no reason for any apprehension that there would be food scarcity anywhere in this country and if in any part there is scarcity, food can be rushed from the Centre. If that was the position, we do not know why for this long time we have been hearing complaints about food scarcity in West Bengal and why so long no steps were taken by the Centre, so that this situation could not have happened in West Bengal. For that, the statistics on which our hon. Food Minister depended should be re-examined.

When the hon. Minister went to Calcutta and addressed a meeting of Congress workers, he admitted that now there was food shortage not only in India, but he advised them to look to the world food shortage. About a few months ago this was not admitted by him. That has to be looked into. Only because of that self-complacency this situation has been created and West Bengal is now on the threshold of famine.

As regards immediate relief, I beg to submit that the test relief should

be immediately rendered to the people of these districts, namely, Murshidabad, 24 Parganas, Nadia and so on. The cultivators in all these places should be immediately given loans, because the rains have been delayed and now they are going to sow the seeds. All sorts of loans should be given to them, so that they can cultivate their land at this late stage. It should also be seen that these people from the villages do not rush to the streets for dying on the pavements.

Regarding blackmarketing and hoarding, we were assured that the Reserve Bank has issued orders that no advances should be made to the traders for hoarding of foodgrains. But the West Bengal Government has issued a statistics and from it it is found that the advances have not yet decreased but have increased. I am quoting from page 4 of "Facts and Figures about West Bengal's Food Problem". It reads:

> "Early in June this year, the Reserve Bank issued a directive to all scheduled Banks in the country to the effect that in respect of each credit limit and advances against the security of foodgrains, a margin of not less than 40 per cent of the value of the foodgrains should be maintained and that Banks should maintain an aggregate level of credit against foodgrains in such a way that by July 12, and in every week thereafter, the level will be in respect of paddy and rice not more than 66-2|3 per cent and in regard to other foodgrains not more than 75 per cent of the level obtaining in the corresponding week in 1956. The Reserve Bank further instructed the Banks not to sanction any fresh credit limit to any party in excess of Rs. 50,000 against foodgrains, not permit existing limits for amounts below Rs. 50,000 against such securities to be increased beyond this figure. The Reserve Bank issued this directive because it thought that though advances against rice and paddy at the end of April, 1957 were 84 per cent of the April 1956 level, this April 1956 level was itself abnormally high and advances against wheat, gram and pulses which in April 1957 remained at the level of April 1956, recorded a marked increase in the first fortnight of May 1957."

So, the advances have registered an increase and not a decrease. Therefore, the Central Government should instruct the West Bengal Government to take serious steps so that the accumulated rice and paddy, which is still in the custody of these boarders, can be brought out in the market for sale.

As stated by the hon. Members who have preceded me, we are all agreeable to co-operate with the Government in tiding over this distress. But, after tiding over this distress, I would request the Food Minister at the Centre, not to sit complacently with the statistics that would be supplied to him by his office, but to go round and visit the areas, see the local leaders and devise ways and means so that in future such things do not happen.

Shri Barman (Cooch Behar-Reserved-Sch. Castes): I have read the statement made this morning by the hon. Food Minister and I am happy for the last para of that statement, wherein he has stated:

> "Hon members will agree that the West Bengal Government have, for a considerable time, been facing a very difficult and complex situation."

My complaint is just the reverse. While we, who represent the public, are trying to convince the Government—by Government I mean both the West Bengal Government and the Central Government—that the food situation is not happy, it is acute and it will be growing more acute as days pass by unless timely steps are taken,

[Shri Barman]

we are told that it is not so. So, I am happy that the hon. Minister has told the members of this House that West Bengal had been passing through a serious food situation for a considerable time past. Had this realisation been a little earlier, a few months earlier, it seems to me, this situation would not have arisen and I shall give you the reasons for that.

In the 1943 great famine of Bengal when, according to Government statistics, 35 lakhs of people died in the streets out of hunger, we have seen one thing and that is, if timely action is not taken, food prices go up, and once they go up, with all its powers, Government cannot bring them down. Many of the members who have spoken before me have stressed the fact that food prices are not coming down. Once the food price goes up, it shall not come down because of certain factors

Every hon. Member and the Government will agree with me when I say that whatever rationing system there may be, whatever quantity of rice may be sold through fair price shops, it meets with just a fraction of the demand. So rice will have to be purchased from the open market. It cannot be supplied by Government. We cannot supply their full requirement and everyone cannot go to the fair price shops. Now what happens? Through the fair price shops and the ration shops we supply those needy persons who cannot purchase in the open market. We give them just nine ounces, which is just sufficient for a meal, not for a day. We give him half ration. The rest of it he has to procure. Whether it is coarse grain or rice, whether it is vegetables of even jungle herbs, he has to procure it; we are not supplying them. They have to purchase them from the open market.

It has been stated on the floor of the House by some members that the rice that is supplied there through the fair price shops are not edible. Perhaps there is some exaggeration. But there is truth in it. Certain quantities of it are such that they are not edible. Then, so far as Bengal is concerned, unfortunately, if anybody has got money, he will take to rice at any cost. So far as other States are concerned, those who are accustomed to take coarse grains such as bajra and other grains and pulses, if those grains are not available, they will take to finer grains. But, so far as Bengal is concerned, it is unfortunate that they stick up to rice though the hon. Minister has stated that they are taking to wheat gradually. But we have seen even during the 1943 famine that even if rice is not available, they will never take to other grains.

Then there is another difficulty. Government can only supply a fraction of the needs of the population, whether it is rice or wheat or any other grain. The rest they have to purchase from the open market. Once you introduce fair price shops and rationing, the climate of scarcity at once starts and the hoarders won't sell their stocks unless they get higher prices. Gradually, the prices go up. So, what I am contending is this. If Government had been anxious early and if they had studied the situation and made a proper assessment of the whole situation, given ration cards to those people who are needy and who will have to go to fair price shops some day and not try to meet the situation after the acuteness has developed prices would not have risen so high.

In this report we find that Government is contemplating—it is also said that the West Bengal Government is just studying the situation—to increase the number from 77 lakhs to one crore. But they are not doing it now. I do not know whether they have any difficulties of supply. But if Government have got the supply, as they profess to have in this report, they should not lose time until the situation becomes more acute, because

that will lead to further increase of the price of rice in the open market.

My complaint is that Government perhaps thought that the situation in West Bengal so far as food is concerned, is not so acute, while we from our own experience knew months before that the situation was becoming graver and graver. I fail to understand one thing. When we approach Government they say there is no fear, there is enough stock; but if there is enough of stock why are not adequate arrangements made in time so that the situation does not become acute. I do not wish to reiterate the statements that have been made by other Members on the floor of the House, but we are getting reports in the newspapers of the things which we actually experienced at the time when the Bengal famine was approaching In the course of a week the price of rice at Calcutta went up from Rs. 7 to Rs. 14. That was a peculiar situation and after that it could not be brought down. That is a factor which I want Government to be cautious about even at this late hour.

It is hoped that in December the lean period would terminate. But we shall have to watch the situation and feed those who are in want of food and who have to purchase from the market the whole of January. So far as Bengal is concerned the *aus* crop has practically failed; it is just a fraction of our rice crop. Until the *aman* crop comes to the market this acute situation will continue and these lean months will continue.

I do not wish to say anything more I would only request Government now that they are conscious of the acute situation that is developing in Bengal they should be prepared to meet it and not just wait and see how things shape. Once the situation in Bengal is allowed to develop to an acute stage things will become more and more tense and it will be very difficult for Government to tackle it. I apprehend as Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri said—the situation will not be so easy as in the last famine of 1943, but it will be a grave and serious one.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I find some hon. Members are trying to rise. Under our rules when a discussion is to take place previous notice has to be given by the Members who wish to take part.

Shri Pramathanath Banerjee (Contai): Hon. Members who have preceded me have given the House an idea of the food situation in Bengal. The hon. the Food Minister has himself admitted that the food situation in Bengal is bad and he has kindly promised that he would supply us food so that Bengal may tide over the bad situation.

I only wish to draw the attention of the hon Food Minister to the experiences that we got in the last famine situation in 1943. At that time rice or paddy was not wanting in the market, but it was the high prices that made it difficult for people to buy it. I am afraid of the situation that we met with in 1943 recurring this year Whatever food stocks the real agriculturists have got will be requisitioned and poor people will not be able to get food for want of money and for want of purchasing power in their hands.

In 1943-44 there were many large hoarders of food. The hoarders were crafty and they used to conceal their hoards in such a manner that it was difficult for Government to find out the hoards of food. They accumulated so much of money that some of them were worth Rs. 30 lakhs or Rs. 40 lakhs Such people conceal stocks and sell their stocks at high prices. At that time I know paddy was being sold at Rs. 25 per maund. In the constituency from which I come, Contai sub-division, paddy is being sold at Rs. 17 or Rs. 18 a maund. The rice that is being supplied from the fair price shops is so bad that it is not fit for human consumption. I would request the hon. Minister to see that people are not allowed to hoard stocks to sell them at exorbi-

[Shri Pramathanath Banerjee]

tant prices later. I have information that every week the price of paddy is rising up, because the supply of food to the fair price shops has not been regular. Though the rice is bad poor people go to the fair price shops, but do not get food sometimes. The rice received by the fair price shops lasts only for a week or ten days and for about a fortnight the shops are left without any stock whatsoever.

This sort of things should at once be stopped, so that there may be a regular supply of rice, whether good or bad. That is the concern of the Government, but it must be kept in the shop.

There is another class of persons who are the middle class persons. They have neither paddy in their house nor money in their pockets. These persons are very hard hit, and I think Government should make some arrangement of giving loans, so that they may get food with the help of those loans.

Other things have been referred to by my friends and I do not wish to dilate upon them. I have spoken on some matters on which I feel much concern, and I hope the hon. the Food Minister will see that the people of Bengal do not die of starvation.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Mr. Guha

Shri Sadhan Gupta (Calcutta-East): May I make a request? If the list of persons who have already given their names is exhausted and there is still time, then the technical objection may be waived and the others might be allowed to speak.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: That will be waived if there is such a situation.

Shri A. C. Guha (Barasat): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the hon. the Food Minister made a long statement this morning on the floor of this House. I am sure every Member from West Bengal must have read this statement carefully. I can see he has tried to meet the situation as far as it goes by the supply of foodgrains as demanded by the West Bengal Government. But I am sorry this statement does not contain any reference to some very relevant and important matters on which I am sure every Member from West Bengal would like to have some assurance from the hon. Minister.

It has been almost openly admitted that the foodgrains supplied to the fair price shops were finding their way to the black market and corrupt practice was rather the regular feature in the fair price shops than being exceptions. I do not know what assurance the hon. Minister can give us that the foodgrains that he will now be supplying for the ration shops or fair price shops will not also find their way into the black market and that there will not be any profiteering through corrupt practice with these foodgrains which he may be able to supply to the West Bengal Government.

I think his statement is lacking in another important matter. Last year's production of rice in West Bengal is 43 lakh tons, which is about 2 lakh tons more than the previous year. It may be said that not only West Bengal but the whole of India had almost a record production of foodgrains last year. So it is somewhat enigmatic to be told that with that record production of rice in West Bengal there is so much scarcity or there is so much high price prevailing in the market. His statement does not give any explanation for this.

The hon. the Food Minister would recollect that on many previous occasions he has stated that there must have been some hoarding, and hoarding may be at three levels—with the primary growers, with the middlemen or trades and with the mill sowners. Recently, the mill-owners have exposed that there is not much foodgrains hoarded with the mill-owners of Calcutta. It should be realised that that is less than even one week's consumption for the people of Calcutta. And I think into the bargain, the trade channel has more

or less been blocked. We find also demonstrations being led by the colleagues of Shrimati Renu Chakravartty, of the rice mill workers asking for work and food. Naturally, if the rice mills cannot work, about fifty or sixty thousand workers go idle. I do not know how the Central Government could have agreed to this step without being sure of the stock that they might have been able to seize. In this matter I do not like to be very reticulous in criticising the Government, but yet I should say that was not a wise measure taken by the Government

To come back to my point of hoarding if there is no hoarding with the mill-owners, Governmnet should find out what is the position with the other two sectors, namely the middlemen and the farmers The Act passed by this House recently has apparently been defective. Only yesterday or the day before that, I think, the Act was amended to a certain extent to meet the situation created by the seizure of rice from the Calcutta rice mills. But the main defect in this Act is about the fixation of price of the rice seized. At that price I think it would be practically impossible or imprudent on the part of the Government to seize the rice. At one stage I know the traders who were importing rice from the other States were rather eager that the rice lying at the railway station might be seized by the West Bengal Government. If the Government are determined to take a step, the step should be effective. Even now I think the Act should be amended.

Professor Ranga has arrived just now, and I know that he will very much resent the idea of seizing rice from the farmers. But if it is within the information of the Government that big farmers have stocks of rice hoarded with them, then the Government should go even to that length. I think the hon. the Food Minister gave an assurance when that Act was passed that no grains would be seized from the farmers, that is from the primary growers I do not like them to take any hasty step, but if the Government have any idea that there is some stock of hoarded rice with the farmers, I think Government should not hesitate to take that step.

Sir, food situation in Bengal has developed into a serious crisis and also a national crisis. It should be tackled with determination and as a national problem. The hon. the Food Minister has made an appeal in the last sentence of his statement. He has said, "It is hoped that with the co-operation of the people, who seem to fully realise the difficulties of the situation, undue suffering will be avoided". But I feel that before the Food Minister can ask for this co-operation on the part of the people, there must be on the side of the Government a concerted and determined action. I am afraid, in this very serious matter, there is a sort of split thinking within the ranks of the Central Government and between the Central Government and the State Governments. It required the Prime Minister to write to the Governor of the Reserve Bank to realise the seriousness of the situation created by the Scheduled Banks giving advances to hoarders to hoard rice when prices were rising so high. Why should it require the Prime Minister to draw his attention? Advances against rice went up to Rs. 23 crores, very much more than it was last year. The Reserve Bank's instructions were being flouted by the Scheduled Banks. How can they dare do that? If the Government were really serious in this matter, in this crisis, there should not be any split thinking within the ranks of the Government or other agencies operating on behalf of the Government.

I appeal to the Food Minister that he may take a determined measure. I do not say that every measure will be correct. Nobody in this House can give a ready-made formula. Whatever step he may take, that step should, to some extent, be knave-proof. It may not be fool-proof; it should be knave-proof as far as possible. The measure passed in the last session

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about essential commodities was not effective.

You have already rung the bell. I should try to conclude my speech. Just on the eve of the hon. Food Minister's visit to Calcutta, the Calcutta papers published some stories that the Central Government have not given adequate help to the West Bengal Government as regards the supply of foodgrains. There was a definite suggestion that the Central Government have failed to meet the requirements of the West Bengal Government. I think that was in the form of a present to the food Minister when he would arrive in Calcutta. I would like some categorical statement from him that there was no difference of opinion between the Central Government and the State Government as regards the supply of foodgrains.

I think I should now conclude with one word. Repeatedly there have been references in the papers to scenes of 1943. I wish those things should not have been repeated Scarcity, a Government can meet. But, if a scare is created, it is not possible for any Government to meet the situation. Somehow or other, every attempt should be made from all sections of the people to avoid a scare being created. No reference to the 1943 famine should be made. That famine was styled even by the *Statesman* as a man-made famine. It was part of the war strategy of that Government. But, the nation should have this confidence in this Government. Errors, this Government may have committed. But, this Government has not and cannot have any purpose or any intention of creating a famine and it will do its utmost to prevent a famine or anything of 1943 scenes recurring.

Again, coming to the statement.....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member must conclude now. After saying one word, he cannot go to a new point.

Shri A. C. Guha: He said about the supply of foodgrains to West Bengal. Nothing has been mentioned about the prices, whether he has been able to bring down the price and whether he expects that the prices will come down within the reach of the West Bengal people in the near future before the Puja and whether the reduced rates will be maintained till the aman crop.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Minister. Shri Sadhan Gupta has been pushed out, I am sorry.

Shri A. P. Jain: I propose to confine my remarks to the points raised in my statement this morning. The debate today has covered a much larger area. Within the short compass of time at my disposal, it will not be possible for me to cover all this ground.

The hon. Member Dr. Banerjee has accused both the Government of India and the West Bengal Government of complacency. It is easy to make a charge. Last year, when there was a flood, I personally went to West Bengal and I covered a large part of the area which was affected by the flood. We gave all the assistance that was needed by the West Bengal Government Subsequently, during the course of this year, my Deputy Ministers have been to West Bengal twice. I have also visited West Bengal once in order to study things on the spot. I dare say that the West Bengal Government has no complaint about the supplies which were made to the West Bengal Government.

We have never concealed the situation. If one reads my statement made this morning, I hope he will agree with me that I have not minimised the difficulties of the situation. I have admitted that there are difficulties of stocks. I have also said that the prices are ruling high. I have not concealed the facts. I have not concealed that there are defects in the administration, in the distribution of food. Part of the food has gone to the black market. I have also stated the steps which I propose to take. I have also sought the co-operation of the people of West Bengal, consisting of various shades of opinion, political parties.

I am very glad that the hon. Member Shri T. K. Chaudhuri has offered co-operation. So far as I am concerned, I can promise here on the floor of the House that any co-operation coming from any section of the people will be welcome to me. I hope that would be the same with the State Government.

In considering the food situation, we have to consider three points. Firstly, availability of food, secondly, distribution machinery and thirdly, the prices at which food is available. Hon. Members will agree, as Shri T. K. Chaudhuri said, that there are certain responsibilities which solely belong to the Centre, and others belonging to the State Government. Not that I am going to dissociate myself with what the State Government is doing. They have been doing things with our fullest concurrence and I am prepared to shoulder responsibility for all the good and bad things that the State Government has done. Nonetheless, situated as we are, working under a Federal constitution, there are certain responsibilities for which I am directly responsible, and there are other responsibilities about which I am responsible in a vicarious manner.

So far as direct responsibility is concerned, the Centre, to the best of its ability, subject to the overall stock position, is responsible to make adequate quantities available to the State Governments. I have given the quantities which we propose to make available to the State Government during the period of the next three months. A number of hon. Members have stated that this difficulty is likely to continue for another three or four months. That is exactly what my statement covers. What is the responsibility we have undertaken? Are we or are we not in a position to fulfil that responsibility? That is the first question. I accept that we are not in a position to supply only rice to the West Bengal people. The West Bengal people are rice eating people. But, they have been good enough to substitute wheat for rice in a substantial manner. We have promised to supply the West Bengal Government 80,000 tons of rice during the next three months. They have already 15,000 or 16,000 tons of rice with them. I have undertaken to supply 65,000 tons during the next three months. We have adequate stocks, more than 65,000 tons in our godowns in Calcutta. I am confident, come what may, that we shall be able to place 65,000 tons at the disposal of the West Bengal Government.

I was hurt that some hon. Members have made reckless statements about the quality of the rice. I maintain it is very good quality rice. Hon. Members who have made this statement have either not seen the rice or have made the statement in an irresponsible manner.

Shri Sadhan Gupta: It may be very good quality, but it may be that rice is not available to the consumer.

Dr. R. Banerji: The quality of the rice supplied is very bad. That is why people have got to purchase it from private sources, and the rates for the private sources the Government has not been able to fix.

Shri A. P. Jain: Has the hon. Member seen it?

Dr. R. Banerji: I have seen it myself.

Shri A. P. Jain: I am prepared to show that ... . *(Interruption)*

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Quality will not improve now by this discussion.

Shri A. P. Jain: ....part of the rice which we are supplying to Calcutta is fine American rice which we bought at about Rs. 32 per maund, and we are issuing it at Rs. 20 per maund. It is one of the finest qualities available in the country. The other part is either imported from U.S.A. or from Burma which is the 1956-57 crop rice. So, I am sorry that efforts have been

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made to condemn the quality of the rice supplied. I am prepared to take any hon. Members to my godowns and show them the rice which we are supplying.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: The godown is all right, but in the rice shops what is being given?

Shri A. P. Jain: I do not know how within a few hours good rice is converted into bad rice.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: Some magic happens.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Do the shops draw from the godowns or have they any other source?

Dr. R. Banerji: When Burma rice was supplied, it was better. Now, Orissa rice is supplied, which is uneatable.

Shri A. P. Jain: That is a new thing. Bengal has been always importing rice from Orissa, and the same quality, i.e., part of the rice, is being supplied from the Central godowns, but part of it is also directly imported If the directly imported rice was good, I do not understand how the Orissa rice issued from the Central godowns could be bad. At any rate, I hold out a challenge to any hon Member who questions the quality of the rice to come along with me to Calcutta, and I will show him the quality of the rice issued (*Interruptions*)

Shri Sadhan Gupta: In the shops or the godowns? Come along to the shops.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The session is drawing to a close and the hon Members have to go that side. The Minister will also take the trouble to go there, and that can be settled So, why should there be such an excitement? It is not usual to throw out challenges, and when several hon. Members are challenging, what can the Minister do?

Shri A. P. Jain: Coming to wheat, we have promised to give West Bengal Government 60,000 tons of wheat during the next two months, and a somewhat reduced quantity of wheat during the month of November. That was all the quantity asked for and we are supplying it.

I know that there have been certain complaints about the quality of atta, and I have taken good care to ensure that in future the quality of atta should improve. Certain sections of the producers of atta were mixing it with some bad stuff, but we have now secured powers under the new notification which has been issued, and I hope that the quality of atta will improve.

At any rate, so far as quanitity is concerned, during the next three months I have agreed to supply 80,000 tons of rice and wheat to the State Government, and so far as that is concerned, the general concensus of opinion among the Members of the House is that that is a substantial quantity which should meet the requirements At any rate, that is all that the West Bengal Government asks us to do.

Next comes the question of distribution. I accept there have been some defects in the distributive macinery, and some of the shopkeepers might have substituted good rice for bad rice. That is possible. I am not going to deny it I do not say that the machinery was good; otherwise we would not have taken steps to alter it.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: At least the Minister speaking should have a quiet surrounding around him

Shri A. P. Jain: What have we done to safeguard against it? We have provided that the approved shopkeepers will not sell any rice other than the rice which we supply them, that they will not sell any wheat other than the wheat which we supply them, and that they shall not sell any atta except the atta that we supply them. So, that is the safeguard that we have provided.

In order to eliminate the other malpractices which were practised by the fair price shops, we have now issued

ration cards. Seventy-seven lakh ration cards have already been issued, and the West Bengal Government may issue another 23 lakh ration cards. I think with the closer supervision of the distributive machinery, with the introduction of the ration cards and with certain other precautions which we have taken, it will be possible to eliminate the substitution of good product by bad product.

A number of hon. Members have laid considerable emphasis, and rightly too, on the relief works, the test works and other kinds of distribution outside these approved shops. We have agreed to supply the West Bengal Government enough ration food, and we are supplying them sufficient quantity to feed another 25 lakhs of persons either by way of free doles or through test relief works or otherwise.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: Is it 25 lakhs or 25 per cent?

Shri A. P. Jain: Twenty-five lakhs. Twenty-five per cent of one crore is 25 lakhs.

Although we have taken the responsibility of feeding 125 lakhs of people in West Bengal which constitutes more than 40 per cent of the total population, that is not a small responsibility which we have taken, and that is all that the West Bengal Government wanted us to undertake.

As regards the price, hon. Member Shri Guha complained that I had made no mention of the price. We have been issuing wheat at Rs. 14 per maund and we have prescribed a corresponding price for flour, suji and atta. The same prices will continue. We have been issuing rice at Rs. 16 per maund, and together with the cost of distribution, rice is being sold through the fair price shops or the approved shops at the rate of Rs. 17 or Rs. 17-8-0 which is very much below the prevailing price of rice in West Bengal. And we propose to maintain these prices.

There is a certain section of people which has not the capacity to buy even at these rates, and for that it has been provided that the State Government can give either free doles by way of relief, or they can open test works or they can otherwise distribute. Hon. Members are fully aware that the Government of India have a scheme of relief under which the State Government can issue either free rations or rations at a subsidised rate. Any expense incurred up to Rs. 2 crores is shared fifty-fifty by the Central and the State Governments, and the expense incurred in excess of Rs. 2 crores is to be shared to the extent of 75 per cent by the Central Government and 25 per cent by the State Government. So, there is a full and perfect scheme both in regard to the availablity of stock and the distribution of free doles or through test works etc., as also about the prices at which food will be ordinarily available from the approved shops on the basis of identity cards, besides test works etc.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: Will it be only up to 25 lakhs or will it be beyond that?

Shri A. P. Jain: We have made enough quantitative provision for feeding 25 lakhs of people Whatever may be the distribution is for the State Government to determine.

I want to make it clear that so far as the Central Government is concerned, our responsibility is to make adequate quantities of foodgrains available to the State Government. That I dare say I have done. Neither the State Government have any complaint about it, nor anybody has any complaint about it. So far as other things are concerned as for instance the distributive machinery, relief works, test works etc., that is all the responsibility of the State Government. They consult us, and as friends we advise them, but the ultimate responsibility rests with them. What decisions have been reached I have mentioned in the paper and I hope that with those decisions properly implemented, conditions in West Bengal should improve not only with regard

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to supplies, but the prices should also show a downward trend.

16 hrs.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: May I have the right of reply?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: No. In discussion like this, there is no right of reply. Unless it is a motion, there is no right of reply.

COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

SEVENTH REPORT

Shri Supakar (Sambalpur): I beg to move:

> "That this House agrees with the Seventh Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 10th September 1957".

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I shall now put the motion to the vote of the House. The question is:

> "That this House agrees with the Seventh Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 10th September 1957".

The motion was adopted.

RESOLUTION *RE*: NATIONALISATION OF SUGAR INDUSTRY

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The House will now resume further discussion of the Resolution moved by Shri Khushwaqt Rai on the 30th August 1957 regarding nationalisation of the sugar industry.

Out of 2 hours allotted for the discussion of the Resolution, 25 minutes have already been taken up and 1 hour and 35 minutes are still left for its further discussion today.

Shri Khushwaqt Rai may continue his speech. If he wants that others should support him, he should conclude soon. 30 minutes is the maximum that the hon. Member can have for his speech on the Resolution. He has already taken 25 minutes and 5 minutes are left.

श्री खुशवक्त राय (खेरी) :

I will finish in 5 minutes.

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, उस दिन जब मैं बोल रहा था, तो मैं गन्ने की कीमतों की बात कह रहा था । हमारी सरकार ९.५ रिकवरी को बेसिस पर गन्ने की कीमतें मुकर्रर करती है । मगर काश्तकार की विडम्बना यह है कि जब रिकवरी अधिक होती है तो उसको दाम ज्यादा नहीं मिलते हैं और अगर रिकवरी जरा सी कम होती है, तो दाम घट जाते हैं । अंग्रेजी की एक मसल है कि **हेड्स आई विन, टेल्स यू लूज** । वही बात होती है, यानी काश्तकार का भला किसी तरह से नहीं होता है ।

दूसरी बात यह है कि इन मिलों में कुप्रबन्ध इतना ज्यादा है कि बहुत सी मिलें गन्ने के दाम भी नहीं दे पाती हैं । यू० पी० में बहुत सी मिलें ऐसी हैं, जो सैस नहीं दे पाती हैं । होता क्या है कि सारा रुपया मिल-मालिक के निजी खर्च में चला जाता है या कांग्रेस के इलैक्शन फंड में जाता है । उत्तर प्रदेश में जब पिछली बार चुनाव हुए थे, तो काफी बड़ी रकम शक्कर के कारखानों के मालिकों ने कांग्रेस को दी थी । यही वजह है कि आज शक्कर के कारखाने कायम हैं, वर्ना मैं कह सकता हूं कि जिस भावना से, जिस कारण से लाइफ इन्शोरेंस बिजिनैस—जीवन बीमा कारोबार का सरकार ने राष्ट्रीयकरण किया, वही कारण आज उपस्थित है कि जिन के आधार पर शक्कर के कारखानों का राष्ट्रीयकरण हो जाना चाहिये ।

इन शब्दों के साथ मैं अपने प्रस्ताव को इस सदन के सामने उपस्थित करता हूं और आशा करता हूं कि मंत्री महोदय मेरे प्रस्ताव को स्वीकार करेंगे ।

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Resolution moved:

> "This House recommends to the Government that the sugar industry be nationalised."

Shri Shree Narayan Das (Darbhanga): I beg to move:

That for the original Resolution, the following be substituted, namely:—

"This House is of opinion that a Committee be appointed to examine the existing working of sugar industry with a view to suggesting whether it is necessary and desirable to nationalise this industry in the national interest".

Shri Jadhav (Malegaon): I beg to move:

(i) That in the Resolution,—after "sugar industry" insert "excepting the industry run by co-operative sector".

(ii) That at the end of the Resolution, the following be added namely:—

"and for that purpose a Committee of 50 members comprising of both the Houses of Parliament be constituted in order to suggest measures for the speedy implementation of the nationalisation within a year".

Shri D. R. Chavan (Karad): I beg to move:

That in the Resolution, for the word "nationalised", the following be substituted, namely:—

"organised on the co-operative basis".

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Now these amendments are before the House. How long will the hon. Minister take?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): About half an hour.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: That means only one hour is left for hon. Members to speak. I think ten minutes will be enough for each Member.

The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Satya Narayan Sinha): How long is the House going to sit?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Unless the Mover of the next Resolution agrees to start and then be content with continuing in the next session, we have to sit till 6-30.

Shri Satya Narayan Sinha: After 5-30 p.m., it will be very difficult to have quorum.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: If there is no quorum, we adjourn.

Shri Satya Narayan Sinha: Members of both Houses have been invited to some function.

Shri S. L. Saksena (Maharajganj): I am very grateful to Shri Khushwaqt Rai for bringing forward this Resolution. This industry is an industry which affects the largest number of people in the country. This year about 18 million tons of sugar have been produced. This means that sugar mills in India have crushed about 118 million tons of sugarcane, because roughly 10 maunds of sugarcane make one maund of sugar. On the average, about 150 to 200 maunds of sugarcane are supplied by one grower family. So roughly about 30 million cane grower families are cultivating sugarcane for supply to the factories. Taking 5 members to a family, about 15 crores of people in India depend upon the functioning of these factories. This is only about cane growers. Then there are workers. About 2 lakh workers are employed in these factories. Their families also will make about a million people.

This is the employment potential of the industry. It affects almost one in every three Persons in the country How is the industry functioning? How are the profits shared? This is a matter of which my hon. friend, the Minister, is fully aware. The hon. Minister will take time in trying to explain how the profits are distributed. He has tried to distribute some portion of profit by the system of bonus to cane growers. But actually this scheme has not worked. In my State at least, nobody has got any bonus during the last several years. In fact, all the profits go to the millowners, and a large part of it to the Government as revenue. The consumers have to pay high price; they can never get the benefit of the profit, whether the sugar is sold cheap or dear.

[Shri S. L. Saksena]

If you want to finance your Plan, if you want to have finances for other works, why allow such huge profits to go to the pockets of the millowners? You can never find out the real cost of production in any factory. They can manipulate it so well that they can always deceive the Government in regard to the cost of production. Even if they deceive by 4 annas, the amount of money they can steal can be calculated. 4 annas difference comes to Rs. 6 per ton. At the rate of 18 million tons, it comes to Rs. 108 million or Rs. 10 8 crores. This much amount they will steal.

So I want to tell the Government that this is an industry which is ripe for nationalisation. Where one sugar factory was established, there are three or four plants now. The Ghughli factory was started in 1919. Now it has about 7 factories. They have all sprung up from the profits made by the factory. They are Ghughli, Rankola Punjabi, Basti, Walterganj, Nawabganj, Kichcha etc.

What I say is that the money invested has been returned many-fold. I do not say that they should be expropriated. They may be given compensation. I say that the cane growers would agree that the Government should take over these factories and they would be ready to be partners with Government in the undertakings In fact, they would be shareholders in the factories if they can be allowed to be so. If this is done and the industry is run by the State, the profits of the industry will be shared by the Government and the people who deserve it and not by a few people whose only interest is to show false returns.

Even the High Courts have been forced to observe in bonus cases that they cannot rely on the balance-sheets and that there should be another method of declaring bonus on the quota basis, how much of sugar has been crushed by the factory and so on. It is clear that the sugar factory owners never show the real profits. If Government are the owners of the factories, the real profits would go to the Government's coffer and would be distributed to the various interests concerned in an equitable manner.

Our industry is not prospering. What was the position in 1939? There were 27 factories in the country in 1937. After protection was granted, the number rose to 137. One hundred were put up in 7 years. Now, after partition also the same number is here. The recovery has been the same; probably, it has gone down.

There is a lot of talk of development; but there is no real development. I have read the Tariff Commission Report. I would have shown that actually it has gone down. Compared with the recovery in 1931, you will find that during the last 15 years, it has gone down instead of increasing. In Coimbatore they have been producing better varieties of cane. But with all that, I wonder why recovery has been going down instead of increasing.

Shri Thirumala Rao (Kakinada): Is the hon. Member referring to U.P. factories?

Shri S. L. Saksena: I am saying about all Indian factories. I am sorry I have not got the Tariff Commission Report here. From the 1950 figures you will see that at least in U.P. and Bihar it has gone down.

Shri Jhunjhunwala (Bhagalpur): Compared to 1934?

Shri S. L. Saksena: Compared to 1931. During 1931 to 1937 it has been higher, but not after these years. What I say is that development instead of increasing has reduced the recovery. There has been an attempt to grow early varieties and later varieties. Previously the crushing period was 6 months but it has now come down to 3 months. This is the sort of development that has taken place.

The mill owner wants bottlenecks to be there, the high prices to be there. His interest is that he should have more and more profit. The cane grower is a poor man; he is poor and he cannot get the money to grow the

full crop. If anybody else is interested, of course, it is the Government. But the Government is interested in its taxes. So, unless there is a real attempt to run the industry on a nationalised basis, to run it from the point of view of the public, I am sure, neither the industry can prosper in quality nor the public can get cheap sugar. I therefore hope that the hon. Minister will try to nationalise the industry.

It does not require a large amount of money for this purpose. If an attempt is made, a scheme can be worked out in which the cane growers and the labourers even will be prepared to be shareholders and pay the money which the industry invests and they will become co-partners with Government in running the industry for the welfare of the public. That will meet the requirements of the workers, the cane growers and the Government also and benefit the industry as a whole.

श्री श्रीनारायण दास: उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, इस प्रस्ताव में चीनी उद्योग के राष्ट्रीयकरण की जो बात कही गई है, जहां तक मेरा ख्याल है, वह उद्योगों के सम्बन्ध में सरकार की नीति के खिलाफ पड़ती है । यह बात सही है कि इस उद्योग में बहुत बड़ी तादाद में लोग काम करते हैं । ऊख के पैदा करनेवालों की तादाद सब से अधिक है । इस में काम करने वाले मजदूर भी हैं और तीसरा वर्ग मिल-मालिकों का है । उत्तर प्रदेश और बिहार में पहले इस उद्योग के नियंत्रण के लिए कोई कानून नहीं था । तब इस उद्योग में बड़ी धांधली चलती थी और सिर्फ नफे के ख्याल से मिल चलाने वाले लोग गन्ने के उत्पादकों का बड़ा शोषण करते थे । इसी तरह शुरू शुरू में जब कि मजदूरों के हकों की हिफाजत के लिए कोई व्यवस्था नहीं थी, तो मजदूरों के साथ भी बड़ा अन्याय होता था । जब उन के हितों की रक्षा के लिए फैक्टरी एक्ट और दूसरे कानून बने, तो उन के साथ कुछ न्याय होने लगा । जहां जहां उद्योग-धंधे हैं, वहां राज्य के स्तर पर ऐसे कानून बने, जिससे उत्पादकों के हकों की भी हिफाजत बहुत हद तक हो गई । मेरा सम्बन्ध उस क्षेत्र से है, जहां पर यह उद्योग कुछ ज्यादा पैमाने पर है । विभिन्न राज्य सरकारों के कानूनों के बावजूद अभी भी उत्पादकों को बहुत सी कठिनाइयों का सामना करना पड़ता है, जिन का हल नहीं हो पाता है । मालूम नहीं किइस उद्योग के बारे में कोई व्यापक जांच अभी तक की गई है या नहीं लेकिन ऐसा देखा गया है कि ऊख के उत्पादकों की वर्तमान अवस्था अच्छी नहीं है । कई माननीय सदस्यों ने ऊख के दामों के नियंत्रण के लिए बने हुए यंत्र का उल्लेख किया है । मैं यह कहना चाहता हूं कि इस सम्बन्ध में जो फारमूला बना हुआ है—या बनने वाला है—वह ऐसा नहीं है, जिससे कि ऊख के उपजाने वालों को सन्तोष हो । यह बात स्पष्ट है कि जब चीनी का दाम बढ़ता है, तब उस के अनुपात से ऊख का दाम नहीं बढ़ता है और जब चीनी का दाम बढ़ता है, तो उस के खाने वलों की आवाज आ जाती है कि चीनी का दाम ज्यादा है । इस सदन में जब जब यह सवाल उठाया जाता है कि ऊख का दाम बढ़ाना चाहिए, क्योंकि चीनी का दाम बढ़ा है, तो दोनों तरफ से उस का विरोध होता है ।

एक माननीय सदस्य : सिर्फ एक तरफ से ।

श्री श्रीनारायण दास : चीनी के खाने वालों की तरफ से भी विरोध होता है और यहां पर कई माननीय सदस्य उन के हक की हिफाजत के लिए कहते हैं कि ऊख का दाम ज्यादा नहीं बढ़ना चाहिए । और जो चीनी उद्योग को चलाने वाले हैं वे तो इसका विरोध करते ही हैं । मगर शायद एक कमेटी बैठी हुई है जो इस बात की जांच पड़ताल कर रही है कि ऊख की उपज में फी एकड़ क्या खर्च पड़ता है । मगर पता नहीं कि वह कमेटी कितने दिनों के बाद अपना प्रतिवेदन प्रस्तुत करेगी । मेरा कहना यह है कि इस उद्योग में जो स्वार्थ निहित हैं, जो उपजाने वाले हैं,

[श्री श्रीनारायण दास]

जो मजदूर हैं और जो पूंजीपति हैं, उन सब के हितों का ध्यान रखा जाना चाहिए । जैसा कि सब को मालूम है कि हम चाहते हैं कि हम भारतवर्ष में सोशलिस्टिक पैटर्न आफ सोसाइटी की स्थापना करें और हम करेंगे भी । उस में यह बात निहित है, यह बात छिपी हुई है कि धीरे धीरे ही सही मगर क्रमिक रूप से जो ऐसे उद्योग हैं, देश के ये जो उत्पादन के साधन हैं, उनका हमको राष्ट्रीयकरण करना है. . . .

श्री भवीरिया (इटावा) : यह सैल्फ-कंट्रेडिक्टरी बात आप कह रहे हैं ।

श्री श्रीनारायण दास: यदि आप इस पर जरा सोचेंगे तो आप पायेंगे कि यह सैल्फ-कंट्रेडिक्टरी बात नहीं है । मैं इस बात का विरोध नहीं करता हूं कि चीनी उद्योग का राष्ट्रीयकरण न किया जाए । । मैं तो यह चाहता हूं कि इसका राष्ट्रीयकरण हो और एक समय आयगा जब चीनी उद्योग का राष्ट्रीयकरण होगा । लेकिन सिद्धान्त के तौर पर अगर हम किसी बात को कर दें और उसके जो नतीजे निकलने वाले हैं, उन पर विचार न करें, तो यह उचित नहीं होगा । किसी विषय पर पूर्ण रूप से सोच कर फिर हम कोई कदम उठाते हैं । हमें देखना चाहिए कि आया जो स्थिति आज है वह संतोषजनक है या नहीं है । मेरा जो निजी ख्याल है वह यह है कि मैं इससे संतोष नहीं मानता हूं लेकिन इस उद्योग के राष्ट्रीयकरण से क्या सोलह आने राष्ट्र का हित होगा, क्या उत्पादन बढ़ेगा, क्या ये जो काश्तकार हैं, इनके हितों की पूरी तरह से रक्षा हो जाएगी, क्या ये जो मजदूर हैं इनके हितों की पूरी तरह से रक्षा होगी, इन सब बातों का मुझे विश्वास नहीं होता है । इस वास्ते मैं ने एक संशोधन प्रस्तुत किया है जिसमें मैं ने कहा है कि वर्तमान स्थिति में क्या यह वाछनीय है, क्या यह आवश्यक है, क्या यह राष्ट्र के हित में है तथा क्या यह व्यावहारिक है कि इस उद्योग का राष्ट्रीयकरण किया जाए तथा इसकी जांच पड़ताल करने के लिए एक कमेटी की स्थापना की जाए । इस बात की जांच करना आवश्यक है कि हमारे पास जितने साधन हैं तथा हमारी जो नीति है, उसके अन्दर रहते हुए इस उद्योग के राष्ट्रीयकरण से लाभ होगा या नुक्सान होगा । इन बातों का फैसला इस ढाई घन्टे की बहस में कर सकना सम्भव नहीं है । यदि इस बहस में इसका फैसला हो सकता तो मैं इसका अवश्य समर्थन करता । मगर मैं समझता हूं कि यह एक महत्वपूर्ण उद्योग है और करीब करीब सारे भारतवर्ष में यह फैला हुआ है तथा फैलने वाला है—अभी तक तो यह ज्यादा तर उत्तर भारत में ही है—उत्तर प्रदेश में है, बिहार में है—लेकिन दक्षिण में भी इसके फैलने की बहुत ज्यादा सम्भावना है—इसकी पूरी तरह से जांच पड़ताल की जाए तथा निजी क्षेत्र में चलने वाले इस उद्योग का काम कैसा रहा है, इस बात की सभी पहलुओं से जांच हो और जांच के बाद ही इस उद्योग का राष्ट्रीयकरण हो या न हो, इसका फैसला किया जाए । इस जांच पड़ताल से अगर यह पता चले कि इस उद्योग के राष्ट्रीयकरण से फायदा होने वाला है, तो मैं इसका समर्थन करूंगा ।

इस उद्देश्य की पूर्ति के लिए, उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैंने एक संशोधन प्रस्तुत किया है, जिसको मैं आपकी आज्ञा से पढ़कर सुनाना चाहता हूं । यह इस तरह से है —

> "मूल प्रस्ताव की जगह निम्नलिखित को रखा जाय —
>
> "इस सदन की राय है कि चीनी उद्योग की वर्तमान अवस्था की जांच के लिये एक समिति का संगठन हो जो यह बतावे कि क्या चीनी उद्योग का राष्ट्रीयकरण राष्ट्र के हित में आवश्यक और वाछनीय है ।"

मैं समझता हूं कि समय आ गया है जब इस उद्योग के सभी पहलुओं की जांच

की जाए और यदि उस जांच के परिणाम स्वरूप यह सिद्ध हो कि इस उद्योग को निजी क्षेत्र में रखने से राष्ट्र का नुकसान होता है तथा जो विभिन्न इंटिरेस्ट्स जो इसमें निहित है उनका अहित हो रहा है, उनकी ठीक प्रकार से रक्षा नहीं हो रही है, उत्पादकों तथा मजदूरों का तथा समाज का फायदा नहीं हो रहा है, तो इसका राष्ट्रीयकरण कर दिया जाय।

इन शब्दों के साथ मैं माननीय सदस्य से प्रार्थना करता हूं कि वह मेरे संशोधन को मंजूर कर लें। इसके बाद भी अगर सरकार द्वारा यह प्रस्ताव मंजूर हो जाए, तो गनीमत की बात होगी। मैं समझता हूं कि यदि कमेटी की नियुक्ति की गई तो इसके अवश्य ही अच्छे परिणाम निकलेंगे।

श्री आचार्य : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, जो विषय इस समय इस सदन के विचाराधीन है वह एक बहुत ही महत्वपूर्ण विषय है। अभी अभी एक कांग्रेसी सदस्य ने कहा है कि जो आज देश की हालत है उसमें तो इस उद्योग की जांच पड़ताल की जानी चाहिए और उस जांच पड़ताल के बाद अगर हम इस नतीजे पर पहुंचें कि इस उद्योग का राष्ट्रीयकरण हो, तो इसका राष्ट्रीयकरण किया जाना चाहिए, नहीं तो नहीं। मुझे याद आता है कि कुछ दिन पहले मैं विवेकानन्द जी की एक किताब पढ़ रहा था जिसमें हिन्दुस्तान का एक शब्द चित्र खींचा गया था। उसमें लिखा हुआ था कि हिन्दुस्तान एक ऐसा देश है जिसमें कि एक तरफ तो आसीशान महल हैं और दूसरी तरफ उसके बिल्कुल नजदीक ही चन्द्रावली में एक झोंपड़ी है। महल में रहने वाला जो व्यक्ति है उसको तो जिन्दगी की सभी सहूलियतें उपलब्ध है, मुयस्सर हैं तथा अधिक से अधिक मात्रा में उपलब्ध हैं परन्तु जो झोंपड़ी में रहने वाला किसान है या गरीब आदमी है उसकी जिन्दगी की जो रोजमर्रा की आवश्यकतायें है वे भी उपलब्ध नहीं है। वह तड़प तड़प कर अपनी जिन्दगी के दिन पूरे करता है। इस चीज को हमें दुरुस्त करना है। इसको दुरुस्त करने के लिए जो चीज हमने अपने सामने रखी है और जो कांग्रेस को मजबूरन अपने सामने रखनी पड़ी है और उसको कबूल करना पड़ा है और जिसको महात्मा गांधी ने शुरू से ही अपने सामने रखा है और कांग्रेस को उस पर चलने के लिए कहा है, वह यह है कि अगर हमें हिन्दुस्तान के नक्शे को बदलना है, तो हमको ऐसे कदम उठाने होंगे जिनको उठाने से कि हिन्दुस्तान के जो अव्वाम हैं, उनका मुस्तकबिल सुधरे, उनका मुस्तकबिल बने तथा उनकी जो इस वक्त खराब हालत है, वह इम्प्रूव हो। पहले पहल तो कांग्रेस ने सोशलिस्टिक पैटर्न आफ सोसायटी वाली बात को नहीं माना था लेकिन बाद में आकर मजबूरन उसे इस चीज को मानना पड़ा लेकिन इतने होने के बाद भी मुझे अफसोस के साथ कहना पड़ता है कि इस प्रकार की सोसाइटी की स्थापना का जो रास्ता है उस पर वह आज भी चलने के लिए तैयार नहीं है। अभी मेरे एक कांग्रेसी दोस्त ने कहा है कि हम जानते हैं कि उस रास्ते पर कब जाना है तथा उस रास्ते पर चलने के लिए हमको सोचना पड़ेगा। मैं कहना चाहता हूं कि दुनिया गोल है और वह यह कहना भूल गये है कि आहिस्ता आहिस्ता कभी न कभी हम इस मंजिल से उस मंजिल तक जा पहुंचेंगे।

यह जो सनत है, इस सनत की तरफ अगर हम देखें तो हमें पता चलेगा कि सन् १९३२ से लेकर, जब से गवर्नमेंट ने इसको संरक्षण प्रदान किया है, इसकी तस्वीर बदलती जा रही है। सन् १९३२ में ज्यादा से ज्यादा हिन्दुस्तान में ३५ मिलें थीं, लेकिन आज करीब करीब १५७ मिलें खुल चुकी हैं। इस इंडस्ट्रीज को जो फायदा हुआ है, उसके जो इंडेक्स फिगर्स है उनको मैं आपके सामने रखना चाहता हूं। मैं आपको बतलाना चाहता हूं कि दूसरी तजारतों के मुकाबिले में इस तजारत में जो लोग हैं, उन्होंने काफी ज्यादा फायदा उठाया है। मैं बेस फिर १९३९ की लेता हूं।

१९४१ में १३७.८
१९४२ में १२६.७

[श्री यादव]

१९४३ में १५७.८
१९४४ में १३३.५
लेकिन १९५३ में ४१६.२

दूसरी जो सनतें हैं उनके बारे में अब मैं आपको फिगर्स देना चाहता हूं । १९४१ में दूसरी इंडस्ट्रीस का जो इंडेक्स नम्बर था वह १८७ था जबकि १९५३ में २५६.९ ही हुआ । इसका मतलब यह हुआ कि इस सनत में लगे हुए लोगों ने बहुत ज्यादा पैसा कमाया है और किस तरह से इतना ज्यादा पैसा कमाया है, इसकी तरफ भी हमको देखना होगा । यह सब इस वजह से हुआ कि टैरिफ बोर्ड ने इस इंडस्ट्री को संरक्षण दिए जाने के लिए कहा था । १९३७ में जब शुगर सिंडिकेट बना और इस सिंडिकेट में जो मिल मालिक थे, उनको ज्यादा से ज्यादा मुनाफा हुआ जब इस तरफ गवर्नमेंट का ध्यान गया तो जो संरक्षण उसने शुगर सिंडिकेट को दे रखा था, वह उसे वापिस लेना पड़ा । यह जो मुनाफा इन कारखानों के मालिकों ने उठाया वह मजदूरों को कष्ट में डालकर उठाया या कंज्यूमर्स को तकलीफ में डाल कर उठाया । इन लोगों ने कोई भी बात ऐसी नहीं की जिससे कि कंज्यूमर्स को फायदा हो सकता हो । आज की फिगर्स तो उपलब्ध नहीं हैं लेकिन १९५० की दुनिया की मार्केट की जो फिगर्स हैं उनको मैं आपके सामने रखना चाहता हूं । इन फिगर्स से पता चलता है कि इन लोगों ने ज्यादा से ज्यादा कंज्यूमर्स को तथा मजदूरों को लूटने की कोशिश की है ।

इस सम्बन्ध में मैं आपके सामने दूसरे देशों में सन् १९५० के मार्च महीने में जो शुगर की रिटेल प्राइस पर पौंड थी, वह रखना चाहता हूं :

बयूवा	४.२३
हैनीय	४.९७
अर्जेंनटाइना	२.५१
डाचिल	४.५९
पेक	१.७७
इक्विट	१.४५
इंडिया	९.५

आज जो बाजार में चीनी की कीमत है वह इस कदर बढ़ी हुई है कि एवरेज आदमी को चीनी खरीदने की ताकत नहीं है और वह चीनी न खरीद कर गुड़ खरीदता है । इस चीनी के व्यवसाय में लगे व्यापारियों और पूंजीपतियों ने भारी मुनाफे कमाये हैं और पूंजीपतियों ने इतना अधिक मुनाफा कमाया है कि करीब ३० करोड़ रुपया जो उन्होंने इनवेस्ट किया था, वह वसूल कर लिया है, करीब ४० करोड़ वर्किंग कैपिटल जो उनका लगा वह सब पैसा वसूल कर चुके हैं । अगर हम देश की इकतसादी हालत को सुधारना चाहते हैं तो यकीनन गवर्नमेंट ने सन् १९४८ और सन् १९५१ में इस इंडस्ट्री के बारे में जो पालिसी बनाई है उसमें उसे परिवर्तन करना होगा, खाली हाउस में आकर ढाई घंटे की बहस कर लेने से आर्थिक अवस्था सुधरने वाली नहीं है। गवर्नमेंट चाहे तो हालत को सुधार सकती है और प्रेसीडेंट आर्डिनेंस भी निकाल सकते हैं । आज जो आर्थिक विषमता पाई जाती है, और एक तरफ महल है और दूसरी तरफ झोंपड़ी है, तो इस बड़े अन्तर को गवर्नमेंट को कम करना है और उसके लिए आवश्यक कानूनी कार्यवाही करनी चाहिए ।

चीनी व्यवसाय का राष्ट्रीयकरण करते समय हमें उस खतरे के प्रति सावधान रहना पड़ेगा जो कि स्टेट ओंड कारपोरेशंस में ब्युरोक्रेसी देखने को मिलती है और इस बात की सावधानी बरतनी पड़ेगी कि कहीं दूसरी स्टेट ओंड कंसर्नस की तरह इसमें भी ब्युरोक्रेसी पैदा न हो और उसके लिए हमें कंज्यूमर्स और वर्कर्स को ज्यादा से ज्यादा पावर्स देनी पड़ेंगी ।

प्राइवेट इंसेंटिव की जो बात आती है तो मुझे उसके बारे में यह कहना है कि पूंजीपति वर्ग, जो कि इस देश के नागरिक हैं, अगर वे

देश का हित और भला करना चाहते हैं तो उनका स्वागत है और अगर वे अपनी व्यवसायिक बुद्धि और पैसा कमाने की ताकत का इस्तेमाल देश की आम जनता के हित के लिए करना चाहते हैं तो उनके काम करने के रास्ते में कोई रुकावट नहीं आयेगी ।

यह कुछ बातें मैं ने आपके सामने रक्खी हैं । मैं ने इस सम्बन्ध में दो संशोधन भी रक्खे हैं और मैं उम्मीद करता हूं कि मेरे मित्र उन अमेंडमेंट्स को कबूल करेंगे । अपने पहले संशोधन में तो मैं ने यह मांग की है कि कोआपरेटिव सैक्टर को इसके बाहर रक्खा जाय और उसको बढावा देना चाहिए और दूसरी इंडस्ट्रीज स्टेट्स कारपोरेशन की तरह से इसको कोआपरेटिव्स को ट्रीट करना चाहिए । अपने दूसरे संशोधन में मैं ने यह कहा है कि इस सनअत के बारे में विस्तार से तहकीकात करने के लिए दोनों हाउसेज के ५० मेम्बर्स की एक कमेटी बना दी जाय जो कि एक साल के अन्दर अन्दर चीनी का राष्ट्रीयकरण किस तरह तेजी से अमल में लाया जा सकता है इस बारे में अपने सुझाव और सिफारिशें दे । यह दो संशोधन मैं ने पेश किये हैं और मैं आशा करता हूं कि प्रस्तावक महोदय मेरे इन दोनों संशोधनों को स्वीकार करेंगे ।

श्री सिंहासन सिंह (गोरखपुर) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, यह जो चीनी व्यवसाय का राष्ट्रीयकरण करने का प्रस्ताव सदन के सामने उपस्थित है, यह एक बहुत ही महत्वपूर्ण विषय है और हम सबको इस पर बड़े ठंडे दिल से विचार करना है । हमें कोई कदम उठाने से पहले इस पर पूरी तरह गम्भीरता से सोचना होगा कि इस उद्योग का राष्ट्रीयकरण करना उत्तम चीज होगी या जो व्यवसाय जारी है वह चलने देते रहना ठीक रहेगा या उसमें कुछ संशोधन किया जा सकता है ।

मैं सदन को बतलाना चाहता हूं कि हमारे उत्तर प्रदेश में जितनी चीनी की मिलें हैं उनकी आधी मिलें हमारे गोरखपुर और देवरिया जिलों में होंगी । यहां पर शायद ही कोई रेलवे स्टेशन ऐसा होगा जहां पर एक चीनी की मिल न हो, कहीं कहीं पर तो दो दो मिलें हैं और करीब २७ मिलें हैं । उन चीनी कारखानों के मिल मालिकों ने इस व्यवसाय से इतना अधिक लाभ उठाया है जिसकी कि आप कल्पना भी नहीं करते होंगे ।

इस व्यवसाय के तीन अंग हैं, मजदूर, मिलमालिक और केनग्रोअर्स (काश्तकार) । मिलमालिक केवल अपना रुपया और बुद्धि लगाता है, केनग्रोअर गन्ना पैदा करता है और मजदूर श्रम करके चीनी पैदा करता है । अब जहां तक चीनी कारखाने में लगे मजदूरों का सम्बन्ध है, उनको कभी कभी लेबर लीडर्स के शोरगुल करने से बोनस मिल जाता है लेकिन गन्ना पैदा करने वाला बिल्कुल घाटे में रहता है और गवर्नमेंट ने आज तक इस पर विचार नहीं किया है कि जो इतनी मेहनत करके गन्ना पैदा करता है उसको गन्ने की जो कीमत मिलती है आया वह उचित होती है या कि नहीं । गवर्नमेंट ने आज तक इस विषय में कोई आकड़े नहीं प्रस्तुत किये कि गन्ना पैदा करने वालों को गन्ने की कितनी कीमत मिलनी चाहिए जिससे उनको उनके श्रम का उचित मुआवजा मिल सके । गवर्नमेंट के पास खुद अपने फार्म्स हैं जहां पर वह गन्ना पैदा करती है और वह इसका अन्दाजा लगा सकती है कि गन्ना उत्पादकों को उनके गन्ने की कितनी कीमत मिलनी चाहिए जिससे कि उसको उसकी मेहनत का पूरा रिटर्न मिल जाय और उचित मुनाफा मिल जाय । आज जो केनग्रोअर्स को गन्ने की उचित कीमत नहीं मिल रही है उसका एक कारण यह भी है कि उनकी कोई एक ऐसी सामूहिक संस्था नहीं है जो गवर्नमेंट पर इसके लिए दबाव और असर डाल सके कि इतनी कीमत हम लोगों को मिलनी चाहिए ।

मुझे याद है कि सन् १९३७ में जब पहले पहले कांग्रेस गवर्नमेंट हमारे प्रान्त में बनी थी तो डा० काटजू साहब के सभापतित्व में एक कमेटी बनी थी और उस कमेटी में मुझे भी

[श्री सिंहासन सिंह]

रहने का सौभाग्य मिला था। वहां पर एक श्रीवास्तवा या कोई अन्य फार्मूला जिसके कि आधार पर गन्ने की कीमत मुकर्रर होती थी। मिल प्रतिनिधियों का सुझाव था कि वही फारमूला रखा जाय—किन्तु डाक्टर काटजू साहब ने कहा था कि वैसा नहीं हो सकता—उन्होंने कहा था कि उसमें इसका हिसाब लगाना होगा कि ईख पैदा करने में कितना खर्चा होता है और मेहनत लगती है और उसको ध्यान में रखते हुए गन्ने की कीमत मुकर्रर की जाय लेकिन वह फार्मूला कुछ चला नहीं।

अब जहां तक सरकार द्वारा इस चीनी व्यवसाय को अपने हाथ में लेने की बात है तो इस सम्बन्ध में हमारा अनुभव बड़ा कटु रहा है। तीन, चार चीजों का हमने राष्ट्रीयकरण किया और सब में घाटा ही घाटा हुआ है।

एक माननीय सदस्य : रेलवे में नफा हुआ।

श्री सिंहासन सिंह : ठीक है वहां पर नफा हुआ लेकिन जितना नफा वहां पर होना चाहिए था वह नहीं हुआ। रेलवे की कैटेरिंग में हमें कई लाख रुपये का घाटा हुआ है।

एक माननीय सदस्य : रोडवेज में नफा हुआ है।

श्री सिंहासन सिंह : ठीक है कहीं पर हमें नफा भी हुआ है। लेकिन आमतौर पर देखा जाय तो हम पायेंगे कि सरकारी प्रबन्ध में घाटा ही रहा है। अशोक होटल को ही ले लीजिये जिसको कि सरकारी प्रबन्ध में चलाया गया और हमने देखा कि वहां पर भारी घाटा रहा।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : आज आप अशोक होटल जा रहे हैं।

श्री सिंहासन सिंह : जी हां। इसी तरह हम देखते हैं कि ऐयर करपोरेशन में राष्ट्रीयकरण के होने से कई करोड़ का घाटा हुआ है। मैं राष्ट्रीयकरण के सिद्धान्त को तो स्वीकार करता हूं और यह भी मानता हूं कि राष्ट्रीयकरण होना उचित है लेकिन दिक्कत यह है कि अभी तक हमारे देश में राष्ट्रीय भाव का उदय नहीं हुआ है और इसीलिए बजाय लाभ पहुंचाने के हम देखते हैं कि घाटा हो जाता है। इसलिए मैं चाहता हूं कि इस सम्बन्ध में श्री श्रीनारायण दास के संशोधन को सरकार को मान लेना चाहिए और एक कमेटी बना कर उसके सुपुर्द यह सारा चीनी व्यवसाय के राष्ट्रीयकरण का मामला सौंप देना चाहिए जो इस विषय में पूरी जांच पड़ताल करे और उसके हर एक पहलू का अध्ययन करके अपनी सिफारिशें सरकार को दे। इस सम्बन्ध में जल्दबाजी करना और प्रस्ताव पास कर देने से काम बनने वाला नहीं है।

हम देखते हैं कि हालांकि शुगरकेन कन्ट्रोल ऐक्ट बना हुआ है लेकिन आज भी काश्तकारों को कोई सुविधा नहीं है।

इस के अन्दर यह कन्ट्रैक्ट होगा कि इतना केन हम सप्लाई करेंगे इतने दिनों में। अप्रैल का महीना हुआ और मिल मालिकों को यह सुविधा मिलती रही कि २ आ० या जितना भी परसेन्टेज हो वह रिकवरी पर काट सकता है। अभी हमारे शिब्बन लाल जी कह रहे थे कि १९३७ के मुकाबले अब रिकवरी कम हो गई है। उस रिकवरी को पूरा करने के लिए कुछ करना होगा क्योंकि गवर्नमेंट की तरफ से मदद मिलने के कारण और काश्तकार अपनी मेहनत से ज्यादा से ज्यादा खेती करता है। ज्यादा से ज्यादा मेहनत करते हुए भी मिल में जा कर केन की सैकरोस कम हो जाती है। मिल वाले कम से कम यही कहते हैं कि वह कम हो जाती है। उस की क्वालिटी बढ़ानी होगी इस के लिए केन डेवेलपमेंट सोसायटी बनी फिर भी घट रही है। इस के लिए प्रयत्न करने के नाम पर भी काफी खर्च किया जा रहा है, लेकिन मिल की तरफ से इस का फायदा उठाने के बाद भी उस मुनाफे में से काश्तकारों को बोनस नहीं मिलता। एक दफा यह तय भी

हुआ था कि मुनाफे में से काश्तकारों को बोनस मिलेगा। लेकिन वह आज तक नहीं मिला।

श्री अ० प्र० जैन : जी नहीं, मिला है।

श्री सिंहासन सिंह : मिला है तो बड़ी मेहरबानी आप की, लेकिन मैं भी एक छोटा मोटा काश्तकार हूं, मुझे तो नहीं मिला। हो सकता है औरों को मिला हो।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : फिर लोगों को क्या मिला, अगर आप को नहीं मिला ?

श्री सिंहासन सिंह : मुझे पता नहीं, औरों को मिला होगा।

कृषि उपमंत्री (श्री मो० बं० कृष्णप्पा) : इकट्ठा मिलेगा।

श्री सिंहासन सिंह : भगवान से आशा लगाए रहूंगा, मिल जाए तो मिल जाए।

बहरहाल ऐसी परिस्थिति में है काश्तकार लोग। सन् १९३७ में बड़ी लड़ाई के बाद यू०पी० सरकार ने एक कानून बनाया है कि जो भी अपनी ईख ले कर जाए मिल में, उस को रुपया तुरन्त मिल जाए। लेकिन किसी को रुपया नहीं मिलता है। काश्तकारों का करोड़ों रुपया पड़ा हुआ है मिलमालिकों के पास। यू० पी० गवर्नमेंट ने यह भी कानून बनाया है कि अगर गन्ने की कीमत पन्द्रह दिन तक न दी जाए तो मिलमालिक ७ १।२ परसेंट सूद दे, लेकिन साथ ही यह भी लिख दिया कि अगर केन कमिश्नर चाहे तो उसे माफ कर दे। मैं तो कहूंगा कि सन् १९५३ में कानून बनने के बाद आप पता लगा लें, किसी को भी कुल सूद में से कितना मिला और कितना माफ हो गया। अगर वह सारा माफ हो गया तो यह कानून बेकार हो गया। चूंकि केन कमिश्नरों को यह पावर दे दी गई है, इस लिए हमेशा जो बात काश्तकारों के हित में होनी चाहिए, वह उन के विपरीत होती है।

आखिर कोई बात तो काश्तकारों के हित में हो जो कि अपनी मेहनत से गन्ना पैदा करता है। जाड़ा बरसात में जो मिल वालों को केन देता है, जब वह बोझ लाद कर मिल जाता है तो कोई उस की बात पूछने वाला नहीं होता है। न उस के ठहरने के लिए कोई जगह होती है न बैठने की। गवर्नमेंट ने मजबूर किया मिलमालिकों को कि वे अपने अपने यहां शेड बनवाएं बैलों के खड़े होने के लिए लेकिन किसी भी मिल मालिक वाले ने दस बैलों से ज्यादा के खड़े होने के लिए शेड नहीं बनवाया। गाड़ियां हजारों आती हैं, लेकिन शायद दस बैलों के पानी पीने के लिए भी जगह नहीं है। थोड़े से ही नाद होते हैं जिन से उन का काम नहीं चलता है। हां हमारे यहां गोरखपुर में दो मिलें है जिन्होंने कुछ अच्छा प्रबन्ध कर रक्खा है। मैं ने उत्तर प्रदेश के अधिकारियों से कहा कि वह उन का अनुकरण क्यों नहीं करते। वही एक मिल है जहां सब गन्ना छः बजे सुबह से छः बजे शाम तक तौल करके ले लिया जाता है। रात में वहां कोई गाड़ी नहीं रहती, लेकिन और मिल वाले उस की ओर ध्यान नहीं देते। जब लोगों की तरफ से मजबूर किया गया तो गवर्नमेंट ने कानून बनाया कि कहीं भी लोगों को १२ घंटे से ज्यादा खड़ा नहीं होना चाहिए, लेकिन आज भी दो दो दिनों तक गाड़ियां खड़ी रहती हैं, कोई भी उन की बात पूछने वाला नहीं है।

इसी तरह से तौल का सवाल है। जो भी गाड़ियां जाती हैं उन के केन को दस या बारह घंटे में तौल लिए जाने की सुविधा होनी चाहिए और यह तौल दिन दिन में ही होनी चाहिए, क्योंकि रात को तौल में इतनी कटौती होती है कि काश्तकार समझ नहीं सकता कि कैसे उतनी कटौती हो जाती है। मैं ने एक मिल का उदाहरण दिया था। डनलप गाड़ी आप जानते हैं, क्या उस पर कोई दस मन गन्ना भेजेगा? उस पर कम से कम ५० मन गन्ना आता है। उस डनलप गाड़ी का गन्ना दस मन बैठा।

कुछ माननीय सदस्य : डनलप गाड़ी क्या होती है।

श्री सिंहासन सिंह : रबर टायर वाली गाड़ी होती है । इसलिए मैं कहता हूं कि रात की तौल गवर्नमेंट बन्द कर दे । मिल वाले कहते हैं कि गन्ना इकट्ठा कर लेने के लिये गाड़ियां बनाना हमारे बस की बात नहीं है । वह केवल बेगा सदरलैंड कम्पनी ही बना सकती है । वह अंग्रेज कम्पनी थी । मैं पूछता हूं कि हमारी हिन्दुस्तानी कम्पनियां उसे क्यों नहीं बना सकती हैं ताकि काश्तकारों की गाड़ियां दिन में ही तोल ली जाएं और काश्तकारों को लाभ हो । लेकिन कोई सुनने वाला नहीं है। नतीजा यह है कि काश्तकार मर रहा है और मिल वाले फायदा उठा रहे हैं । हमारे इंस्पेक्टर जाते हैं मिलवालों के यहां दावतें खाते हैं और आ कर रिपोर्ट कर देते हैं कि एवरी थिंग इज ओ के । तो पहले जो रूल था ७ १।२ परसैन्ट का वह भी नहीं मिल रहा है, पहले यह था कि अगर कोई केन मिल वाला पर्ची देने के बाद २४ घंटे के अन्दर ईख का दाम न दे तो प्रासिक्यूट हो और प्रासिक्यूशन में ७०० रु० डेली तक फाइन हो । लेकिन अगर मैं गलती नहीं करता तो शायद एक मिल वाले का भी प्रासिक्यूशन नहीं हुआ, करोड़ों रुपया बाकी रहा, मैंने कई दफा कमिश्नर से कहा कि प्रासिक्यूशन क्यों नहीं करते ? लेकिन उन्होंने कहा किस को करे ? मुकदमेबाजी होती है । मैंने उनको नाम दे दिया, लेकिन फिर भी प्रासिक्यूट नहीं किया । हमारे गोरखपुर में एक मिल है जिस ने आज तक डिविडेंड डिक्लेअर नहीं किया । इस पर तवज्जह होनी चाहिए । शेअर होल्डर्स का रुपया लगा हुआ है, लेकिन उनको डिविडेंड नहीं मिला । वह मिल गोरखपुर में है ।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : इसलिए नैशनलाइज किया जाए या न किया जाए ?

श्री सिंहासन सिंह : इस मिल को तो करना ही चाहिए । इस पर गवर्नमेंट एक्सपेरिमेंट करे गोरखपुर में, जैसा शिब्बनलाल जी ने भी कहा, कई मिलें हैं जिन्होंने आज तक अपने शेअर होल्डर्स को एक पैसा भी डिविडेंड का नहीं दिया है, उसका हिसाब तक नहीं हुआ है । इस लिए सरकार से मैं यह कह रहा हूं कि कम से कम वह इस पर तो ध्यान दे कि शेअर होल्डर्स का लाभ हो, लेकिन वह होता नहीं है ।

मैं आपका ध्यान खास तौर से इस तरफ दिलाना चाहता हूं कि सरकार ऐसे रुल बनावे जिस में काश्तकारों को भी सुविधा मिले और वह जिन्दा रह सकें। मिल वाले उनको कोई सुविधा नहीं देते हैं, उनके लिए पानी का भी कोई इन्तजाम नहीं है ।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : आपका समय खत्म हो चुका है, लेकिन जब आप उसकी भी परवाह नहीं करते तो उन लोगों कि परवाह कैसे होगी ?

श्री सिंहासन सिंह : मैं अपनी बात कह रहा था और चूंकि सदन का ध्यान मेरी तरफ था इस लिए मैं समझ रहा था यह बातें कुछ अपील कर रही हैं । इस लिए अब मैं इतना ही कहूंगा कि जो श्री श्रीनारायण दास का संशोधन है उसको सरकार कबूल कर ले तो वह सब के हित में होगा ।

Shri D. R. Chavan: Mr Deputy-Speaker, I have moved an amendment to the resolution for the nationalisation of sugar industry in this country. My amendment is to this effect: that, instead of nationalisation, it should be re-organised on a co-operative basis. The experiment on the co-operative basis is being made in the second Five Year Plan and an additional capacity has been sanctioned for establishing the sugar industry. 43 factories have been licensed out of which there would be 22 sugar factories in the co-operative sector. For the sugar industries in India, it is necessary, under the present circumstances, when we are going on with the second Five Year Plan, to re-organise this industry on a co-operative basis, because, the raw material

that comes for this industry is from the agricultural sector. It is necessary to re-organise our industrial organisations in this country, and for that purpose I propose that there should be two categories of industrial organisations: the first in the co-operative sector and the second in the public sector and that there should be no third sector—called the private sector. My submission is that the first category of industrial organisation should be confined to those industries which get their raw material from agriculture, like sugar industry, textile industry, jute industry and all such types of industries which are mainly dependent for their manufacture on agricultural raw material, should be in the co-operative sector. Secondly, the industries like coal mines, steel and iron, which are dependent for their raw material coming from natural resources should be in the public sector. The private sector should be totally eliminated. That is my submission.

For making out a case for the nationalisation of the sugar industry or reorganising the sugar industry on a co-operative basis, there is sufficient data. If you look at certain figures, you can certainly come to the conclusion that the Indian sugar industrialists have robbed the consumers, the cane-growers and the wage-earners and made tremendous amounts of profits at the cost of the Indian public. For that purpose, I have taken a sample survey of 28 sugar factories during the ten year period between 1937-38 and 1947-48 I have taken 28 factories spread all over the country and I am reading the profits made by these industries during these ten years. In 28 sugar factories selected by me, the total paid-up capital was Rs. 5,93,46,533. The profits made are as follows: 1937-38—Rs. 22,89,318; 1939—Rs. 88,01,738; 1940—Rs. 89,50,245; 1941 Rs. 1,46,33,723; 1942—Rs. 1,44,16,114; 1943—Rs. 3,06,17,872; 1944—Rs. 1,99,03,028; 1945—Rs. 1,96,92,841; 1946—Rs. 1,54,09,166; 1947—Rs. 1,54,34,155; 1948—Rs. 3,02,42,463. The total comes to Rs. 17,09,20,884 on a capital of Rs. 5,93,46,533. This is the amount that has been realised by the sugar industrialists in this country in a period of 10 years commencing from 1937-38 to 1948 by way of profits. I have taken into consideration only 28 factories.

Taking these figures as the basis of my calculation, I came to the conclusion that since 1900—that was the year in which the first sugar factory was established in India in Bihar—up to 1954-55, on a capital investment of Rs. 66 crores, a profit of Rs. 132.7 crores have been made by the Indian industrialists During this period, if we look at the amount paid to the cane-growers and wage earners, we will be shockd to find that these persons not only exploited the cane-growers, wage earners and the consumers in the country, robbed away their money but controlled the U. P. and Bihar Government, in spite of the fact that the Governmnent wanted to control the sugar industrialists. I am referring here to the Indian Sugar Syndicate. If my hon. friend sitting in the opposite bench remembers the year 1949 when there was a sugar crisis, a sugar scandal, in a period of three months, the Indian Sugar Syndicate people, i.e. the Indian sugar industrialists, by creating an artificial scarcity and acute shortage in the country increased the prices. The price which was Rs. 6-6-0 per maund in 1931 shot up gradually and by 1949 the average price per maund varied from Rs 30 to Rs. 60 all over India and Rs. 240 per maund in Bombay and Calcutta. This was the amount that the sugar industrialists made during this period. My calculations are that about 20 crores of rupees were knocked out by the Syndicate in a period of three months.

I would like to refer to what the hon. Prime Minister said in the year 1949 when there was the crisis created by the Indian Sugar industrialists. Even the Prime Minister was very much perturbed at the course of events that had taken place and on the occasion of the U.P. Provincial Congress Committee—let the hon. Minister remember—held in Kanpur in the last week of August, of 1949, he publicly expressed his disgust at the anti-social activities of the Indian

[Shri D. R. Chavan]

Sugar Syndicate, which is nothing but the combination of the Indian sugar industrialists.

In his opening address in the Parliament on the 28th of November, 1949, he said:

> "What is very disturbing is not the fact that some of us have not been able to get sugar, but the fact that the sugar position should deteriorate so rapidly and the deterioration could not be checked quickly. That is the fact that which is very important and we should find out who is particularly responsible for it or who is guilty of it. Our country has been brought into greater disrepute by this sugar scandal than by all other causes put together and the matter cannot be allowed to be dropped without a thorough inquiry into the causes of the present sugar racket. The Government should take the most severe action against those who are found guilty."

This is what the Prime Minister said in his opening address in the Indian Parliament concerning the sugar scandal in 1949. Under such circumstances, there are facts and figures to show that the Indian sugar industrialists had made tons of money. So, is it not a case for nationalisation or reorganisation of this industry on a co-operative basis?

The co-operative sector has been opened by the Government but I am surprised and pained to find that while giving priorities, the present Government is also guilty in not giving first priority to the industries which are growing in the co-operative sector. There are several co-operative industries which have not been given import licences by the present Government, in spite of the fact that they are sanctioned under the Second Five Year Plan, on the pretext that there is shortage of foreign exchange. I know the case of one sugar industry where an amount to the extent of Rs. 15 lakhs had been collected by the people. The Industrial Finance Corporation had sanctioned the amount and the Central Government and the State Government have taken shares.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member's time is up.

Shri D. R. Chavan: The co-operative has purchased pre-fabricated iron to the extent of Rs. 4 lakhs and several other things. They have taken the site and also the contribution from the cane-growers. All the preliminaries have been done. In spite of that, the Government has given import licences to peole in the private sector, but not in the co-operative sector which is a new development in our national economy.

May I request the hon. Minister to look into this matter as early as possible, because there are reports submitted to him, and remedy the state of affairs, which is very scandalous? That is my submission to the hon. Minister. I have no time. Otherwise I would have referred to several other matters.

17 hrs.

Shri Yadav (Barabanki): rose—

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member has been pushed out. The other hon. Member did not react to my bell, though I rung it thrice. I was helpless. Now, if the hon. Minister can wait for five minutes, I will give this hon. Member an opportunity, because he has been rising again and again

Shri A. P. Jain: I have no objection

श्री यादव उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, राष्ट्रीयकरण का और विशेष रूप से चीनी की मिलों के राष्ट्रीयकरण का तीन चीजों से सम्बन्ध है, चीनी, चुनाव और चन्दा और यह समझते हुए भी कि ये तीनों चीजें साथ साथ चलती हैं इस लिए मंत्री महोदय या सरकारी पक्ष कहां तक हमारे इस राष्ट्रीयकरण के प्रस्ताव का समर्थन करेंगे, मैं श्री खुशवक्त राय जी के इस प्रस्ताव का समर्थन करने के लिए प्रस्तुत हूं।

वैसे तो बुनियादी तौर पर मैं चाहूंगा कि देश में जितने भी बड़े उद्योग धंधे मिल मालिकों के हाथ में हैं उन सबका राष्ट्रीयकरण या समाजीकरण हो जाये, किन्तु इस समय तो हमारे सामने और इस सदन के सामने सिर्फ चीनी मिलों के राष्ट्रीयकरण का प्रश्न है और यदि मैं यह राष्ट्रीयकरण चाहता हूं तो उसकी पुष्टि में कुछ बुनियादी चीजों की ओर सदन का ध्यान ले जाना चाहता हूं ।

पहली चीज जिसकी ओर कांग्रेस जोर देती है, सदन के बाहर ज्यादा और सदन के अन्दर कम, वह है सोशलिस्टिक पैटर्न आफ सोसाइटी । क्यों ? समानता लाने के लिए, समाज से नाबराबरी दूर करने और वर्ग विहीन समाज की स्थापना के लिए । परन्तु सरकार की प्रवृत्ति विशेषता बनिया प्रवृत्ति है बनिया प्रवृत्ति क्या होती है? वह है व्यक्तिवाद और मंत्री महोदय को तो विशेष रूप से व्यक्तिवादी होना चाहिए और अगर न हों तो अच्छा है । तो मैं चाहता हूं कि जो सरकार और मंत्री महोदय सोशलिस्टिक पैटर्न की बात कहते हैं और जो वर्ग विहीन समाज की स्थापना का और समानता लाने की बात कहते हैं उसे पूरा करने के लिए कम से कम चीनी मिलों से शुरुआत करें जिसकी तरफ मैं विशेष रूप से उनका ध्यान दिलाना चाहता हूं । चीनी के कारखानों का सीधा सम्बन्ध किसानों से है जिनके बैल के कन्धों पर सवार होकर यह सरकार आज सत्तारुढ हुई है । यह ध्यान देने की बात है । इस चीनी से किसान का, मध्यम वर्ग का, और उच्च वर्ग का, सभी का सम्बन्ध है । इस लिए मैं चाहता हूं कि इस चीज के राष्ट्रीयकरण से शुरुआत की जाये ।

दूसरी वजह यह है कि जब तक देश में सरमायेदारी या पूंजीवाद रहेगा और मेरी इस बात से सदन सहमत होगा, तब तक इस देश में भ्रष्टाचार रहेगा और सरमायेदारी के रहते भ्रष्टाचार कभी समाप्त नहीं हो सकता । तो यदि हम चाहते हैं कि देश से भ्रष्टाचार चला जाये ।

एक माननीय सदस्य : मार डालिये ।

श्री यादव : मार डालने का तो प्रश्न नहीं है, लेकिन दूसरों को जिन्दा रखने के लिए कुछ लोगों के हाथ पैरों को रोकना चाहिए ।

तो यदि हमको भ्रष्टाचार को रोकना है तो हमको चीनी उद्योग के राष्ट्रीयकरण की ओर जाना चाहिए ।

तीसरी बात यह है कि सरमायेदारी में मानापलिस्टिक टेंडेंसीज पैदा हो जाती हैं । उसको भी अगर हम रोकना चाहते हैं और यह चाहते हैं कि चीनी के दाम ठीक रहें तो हमको यहां से शुरुआत करनी चाहिए ।

एक अन्तिम बात इस सिलसिले में मैं यह कहना चाहता हूं कि हमारी प्रान्तीय सरकारें हों या प्रान्तीय सरकारें हों चाहे केन्द्रीय सरकार हो, जब भी कोई बात होती है तो पंचवर्षीय योजना की बात बड़े जोरों से कहने लगते हैं, कहा जाता है कि इसके लिए हमें गरीबों पर भी टैक्स लगाना होगा, एक एक आदमी पर टैक्स लगाना होगा, हमें अपनी बैल्ट कसनी होगी, क्योंकि पंचवर्षीय योजना चल रही है, उसके लिए पैसे की जरूरत है । शायद उसी जरूरत को पूरा करने के लिए सरकार ने तीन करोड़ के खर्च से अशोक होटल बनाया है और अब सरकार खाना बेचेगी । उससे मुनाफा होगा या नहीं यह दूसरी बात है । लेकिन यह काम मुनाफा कमाने के लिए खोला गया है । पर मैं कहता हूं कि यदि इस उद्योग का राष्ट्रीयकरण कर दिया जाये तो सरकार को करोड़ों रुपया मुनाफा हो जायेगा जिससे कि पंचवर्षीय योजना को काफी सफलता मिल सकती है और बल मिल सकता है । लेकिन फिर सरकार को चीनी, चुनाव और चन्दे के चक्कर को छोड़ना होगा ।

श्रीमान, मैं निवेदन करना चाहता हूं कि सन् १९४६-४७ में, पेश्तर इसके कि कांग्रेस दल प्रान्तों में या केन्द्र में सत्तारूढ़ हुआ था, मुझे याद है कि गन्ने का भाव दो रुपये मन था और कंट्रोल रेट से चीनी का दाम ९ आने प्रति सेर था । यह हिसाब रखा गया था । हिसाब

[श्री यादव]

लगाने वालों ने यह हिसाब लगाया था कि अगर गन्ना दो रुपये मन बिके तो चीनी ९ आने सेर बिक सकती है। यहां मैं यह नहीं कहना चाहता कि कितनी बोरी काले बाजार में ८० रुपये बोरी या ११० रुपये बोरी या किस भाव से बिकी और कितनी खुले बाजार में। मगर यह भाव निश्चित किया गया था। पर आज हम देखते हैं कि अब चीनी की लागत २४ रुपये मन है, और २८ और साढ़े २८ रुपये मन बेचने की कीमत है लेकिन बाजार में ३२ और ३३ रुपये मन चीनी बिकती है। तो इस तरह से चार रुपया ज्यादा लिया जा रहा है। यह खुली लूट हो रही है।

मैं निवेदन करूंगा कि आज से तीन वर्ष पहले उत्तर प्रदेश मे किसानों ने आन्दोलन किया था कि गन्ने का दाम बढ़ाया जाये क्योंकि गन्ने की कास्ट आफ प्रोडक्शन बढ़ गयी है। यहा पर एक माननीय सदस्य ने काटजू एन्क्वायरी का जिक्र किया। काटजू एन्क्वायरी की यह राय थी कि गन्ने की उपज की लागत के हिसाब से गन्ने का भाव निर्धारित किया जाना चाहिए। जब इर्रीगेशन का रेट बढ गया है तो मानी हुई बात है कि गन्ने का कास्ट आफ प्रोडक्शन भी बढ़ेगा। उसी के अनुसार किसान को गन्ने का दाम मिलना चाहिए। लेकिन हुआ यह कि लागत तो बढ़ी लेकिन उसके गन्ने का दाम घटाकर १ रुपया ५ आना और १ रुपया ७ आना मन कर दिया गया। लेकिन चीनी का दाम जो कि ९ आना सेर था वह बढ़ गया। साढे २८ रुपये मन चीनी का भाव एनफोर्स नही किया गया। और जब किसानो ने ज्यादा पैसा मांगा तो उनको जेल में ठूस दिया गया। लेकिन मैं पूछना चाहता हूं कि क्या किसी भी मिल मालिक को जेल में भेजा गया।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : माननीय सदस्य ने तीन मिनट मांगे थे, मैं ने पांच मिनट दिये। उन्होंने तीन मिनट ले लिये, पांच मिनट भी ले लिये और अभी और बोलना चाहते हैं।

श्री यादव : इसके लिए धन्यवाद। मैं केवल सदन से और माननीय मंत्री महोदय से निवेदन करूंगा कि वे अपनी ईमानदारी का सबूत देने के लिए और यह स्पष्ट करने के लिए कि वे सोशलिस्टिक पैटर्न आफ सोसायटी में विश्वास करते है, इस प्रस्ताव को मान लें तो बहुत अच्छा होगा।

Shri A. P. Jain: Mr. Deputy Speaker, I do not claim any special virtue for the sugar industry and I do not say that it is the paragon of virtue. But, at the same time, I am not going to accept either that the sugar industry is the devil of the show. The sugar industry is like any other industry in this country. The hon. Member, Shri Shibbanlal Saksena, said that some of the sugar mills are preparing false balance sheets. Is it peculiar to the sugar industry or is it a ground for nationalisation? Another hon. Member said that a certain factory in the Gorakhpur division had not paid any dividend Is the sugar industry the only industry in which a factory has not paid any dividend? Therefore, we have to consider this question in a dispassionate manner. In the light of the national policies, in the light of the special circumstances, if any, that exist in the sugar industry.

In regard to the nationalisation policy, it is a well-known fact to the hon. Members that the nation has decided that we should have a mixed economy in which a part of the industry may be owned in the public sector and another part of the industry may be owned in the private sector.

The Industrial Policy Resolution was accepted by this hon. House. In that Industrial Policy Resolution the industries were divided into three categories:

The first category includes industries, the development of which is the exclusive responsibility of the State; the second category covers industries

which might be progressively State-owned and in which the State might generally take the initiative in establishing new undertakings but in which private enterprise is also expected to supplement the efforts of the State and lastly the third category includes all the remaining industries; their future development should in general be left to the initiative and enterprise of the private sector, though it is up to the State to start any industry even in this category.

Now, the sugar industry falls under the last category. An hon. Member said that the Government have decided to open a hotel, to enter into the catering trade. But Government has not nationalised all the hotels. Therefore that similie does not hold good in deciding the question.

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : आज अशोका होटल का जिक्र आ जाने से मुझे डर है कि शाम को जो चाय मिलने वाली थी, वह कहीं खत्म न हो जाय ।

Shri A. P. Jain: I will not stand in the way of the tea of the hon. Members.

Now, Sir, judged from the accepted policy of the Government, there is no case for the nationalisation of the sugar industry. But I do not take my stand only on that. This is a sovereign body. It has always a right to overrule or to amend the Industrial Policy Resolution. Let us see whether there is a special case made out by any hon. Member for nationalisation of this industry.

I claim, Sir, that of all the industries in this country sugar industry is the most controlled industry, right from the beginning, from the purchase of the sugarcane down to the sale of sugar.

Pandit K. C. Sharma (Hapur): What about weighment?

Shri A. P. Jain: Weighment is not nationalisation.

Firstly, Government announces the price of sugarcane and at present we have announced the price of sugarcane as Rs. 1-7 per maund for the gate delivery and Rs. 1-5 per maund for delivery at the outsation centres. An hon. Member has said that the price of the sugarcane is not paid in time. There have been defaults, but comparatively little. At present 3 per cent of the purchase price has not been paid. For that also there are rules. The sugar produced by the factories has in a number of cases been attached and the factories have been asked to make the payment. Even supposing they default in the payment in proper time, there is a law for that, but it hardly makes out a case for nationalisation.

In order to safeguard the interest of the consumers, the sugar produced by the factories is released for sale under Government orders. Government have also the power to requisition 25 per cent of the sugar for distribution at controlled prices. This movement is also regulated in order to maintain more or less even prices all over the country. A scheme of bonus payment has been evolved under which if the mill-owners make extra profit, that extra profit is distributed in a certain proportion between the cane-grower and the mills. Under that scheme a sum of Rs. 84 lakhs was distributed in one year. In the next year a certain amount has been distributed and payments for the other years are being worked out.

An Hon. Member: In which year?

Shri A. P. Jain: In 1953-54, 87 lakhs were paid.

श्री यादव : किन राज्यों में ?

Shri A. P. Jain: In all the States, wherever it was due and payable.

The wages of the workers are controlled under the Minimum Wages Act; the expansion of industry is regulated under the Industrial Development and Regulation Act. If there is mismanagement in any factory, Government has the power to take over that factory under the Industries Development and Regulation Act. It

[Shri A. P. Jain]

can also control the factory under the Essential Commodities Act. (*Interruptions*) I do not want interruption from hon. Member; I did not interrupt him when he was speaking and making all kinds of allegations. A number of factories have been taken. This year five factories were taken under the control of Government under the Industries Development and Regulation Act.

Shri V. P. Nayar (Quilon): For what type of mismanagement.

Shri A. P. Jain: Mismanagement is of two kinds. There may be a quarrel between the partners on account of which production may suffer. Or there may be quarrels between the labour and management, or between the cane-growers and the management on account of which production may suffer. For these and several other reasons prescribed under the law factories have been taken under Government control.

I maintain the sugar industry is one of those industries which is highly regulated and in which the prices have not risen. There may have been temporary rise now and then, but on the whole prices have been maintained at a fair level. How has the sugar industry behaved? In 1953-54 the production of the factories was 10 lakhs tons. Today it is more than 20 lakhs tons, that is, production has been doubled.

The hon. Member, Shri Shibbanlal Saksena said that recovery has been going down. That again is not a fact. I have got the chart with me and I find that recovery has varied from year to year. Sometimes it is more; sometimes it is less on account of whether conditions, but by and large the recovery has gone up.

Shri S. L. Saksena: I challenge it has gone down steadily.

Shri A. P. Jain: It may have gone down in his place and perhaps on account of his activities.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Should I allow this challenge to be decided here and now?

Shri A. P. Jain: But by and large the recovery of sugar taken in the industry as a whole has gone up. Now it is 9.84 per cent as against 9.1 in 1930-31 and 8.9 in 1931-32, and so on and so forth.

Another question has been raised and it is this. We can finance the Plan by nationalising this industry. Let us analyse that contention. The total investment in the sugar industry at present is Rs. 95 crores. This includes Rs. 35 crores spent in establishing 23 new factories and expansion of 30 existing factories. Further licences have been issued for establishing 32 more new factories and expansion of 38 existing factories which will cost another Rs. 55 crores. So, if we have to nationalise this industry we have to immediately pay Rs. 150 crores. If we have to spend Rs. 150 crores I say we should spend it in establishing new industries and not acquiring existing industry which does not help this man or that man.

Instead of helping the Plan it will retard the Plan because our resources of the Plan have been stretched to the utmost limit and if we divert any further resources provided in the Plan for the nationalisation of the sugar industry it means that to that extent the establishment of other industries or the development in other sectors will be retarded.

So any argument that the nationalisation of the sugar industry can contribute towards the implementation of the Plan is a totally misconceived thing.

Much has been said about the socialistic pattern. Hon. Members who have talked about socialist pattern seem to think as if nationalisation of the sugar industry alone is socialist pattern. I submit to them in all humility that this is a very misconceived idea. Socialisation means increased production, higher technology. How can we.. (*Interruption*).

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Shall I be a helpless spectator only and allow all the chorus of voices to go on simultaneously?

Shri A. P. Jain: How can we have increased production and equitable distribution? So far as that is concerned, nationalisation of the sugar industry, which, I submit, in the private sector has done fairly well, is not going to add to increased production. On the other hand it may retard production by diverting the Plan resources from new enterprises to an existing enterprise. Looked at from any point of view, I think the resolution which has been moved by my hon. friend Shri Khushwaqt Rai is a misconceived one

Now, some amendments have been moved to the effect that we must organise the sugar industry on the co-operative basis I have all my sympathies with that point of view. Of the 55 factories which we have licensed, about 38 or 39 have been given to the co-operative sector, and a large amount of help is being given in establishing co-operative societies. The question is, should we convert the existing factories into co-operative societies? We have just started an experiment in establishing co-operative organisations in bigger industries We have yet to gain experience. I do not know what is going to be the future shape of things. I am firmly of the opinion that any further expansion of the industry must primarily go to the co-operative sector. But I do not think we have either the experience or the nation is going to benefit or we are going to have higher production by diverting existing units to the co-operative sector.

Sir, I have nothing more to add, and I oppose the main resolution as also all the amendments.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Does the hon. Mover want to reply? He can have five minutes.

श्री खुशवक्त राय : श्रीमन्, मैं ने मंत्री महोदय की स्पीच को बड़े गौर से सुना है और जितनी देर भी मैं उनको सुनता रहा यही विचार करतारहा कि कभी कभी एक आदमी के इधर से उधर चले जाने के बाद विचारों में कितना परिवर्तन आ जाता है। मेरे एक साथी ने सन् १९४९ का जिक्र किया है। मुझे यह अच्छी तरह याद है कि मंत्री महोदय की उस वक्त राय यह थी कि इस इंडस्ट्री का राष्ट्रीयकरण किया जाना चाहिए।

An Hon. Member: Now they have gained experience.

श्री खुशवक्त राय : अगर उन बेंचिस पर बैठ जाने से इस तरह से सम्मतियां बदली जा सकती हैं या बदल जाती हैं तो इस पर मुझे आश्चर्य ही होता है।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : यह तो तजुर्बे से ही पता चल सकता है।

श्री खुशवक्त राय : मुझे इस तरह का तजुर्बा नहीं करना है कि जिस से आदमी ही बदल जाए।

यहां पर इंडस्ट्रियल पालिसी रेजोल्यूशन का जिक्र किया गया है। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी को याद दिलाना चाहता हूं कि सन् १९४८ में जब यह रेजोल्यूशन पास हुआ था उस समय यह इंडस्ट्री किस श्रेणी में थी तथा आज किस श्रेणी में है? उस वक्त यह इंडस्ट्री दूसरी श्रेणी में रखी गई थी, क्या माननीय मंत्री इस बात को भूल गए हैं तथा आज इसको तीसरी श्रेणी में रखा गया है।

मैं कहना चाहता हूं कि मेरा यह जो प्रस्ताव है, इसको सब से बड़ा समर्थन इस सदन के सदस्यों से प्राप्त हुआ है। आपने देखा है कि माननीय मंत्री को छोड़ कर इस प्रस्ताव का किसी ने भी विरोध नहीं किया है।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : इस बात का तो राय लेने पर ही पता चलेगा।

श्री खुशवक्त राय : यह उनकी स्वतंत्र राय नहीं है। चीफ व्हिप महोदय यहां पर

[श्री खुशवक्त राय]

रहते हैं और उनका कहा सब को मानना पड़ता है । श्रीमन्, यह राय सदस्यों की अपनी राय नही है ।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : ऐसा नही कहना चाहिए ।

श्री खुशवक्त राय : आई एम सौरी ।

श्रीमन्, मै यह कहना चाहता हू कि यह जो मै ने प्रस्ताव उपस्थित किया है वह किसी मिसकंसैपशन की वजह से पेश नही किया है । मैं समझता हू और अच्छी तरह से समझता हूं कि समय आ गया है जब कि शूगर के कारखानो का तथा शूगर इडस्ट्री का राष्ट्रीयकरण हो जाना चाहिए । आप उन चीजो का राष्ट्रीयकरण कर रहे है जिनका राष्ट्रीयकरण करने की आवश्यकता नही है । रेलो की ही बात ले लीजिये । रेलो पर भोजन इत्यादि का आप विभागीय प्रबन्ध कर रहे हैं जिस के परिणामस्वरूप कही भी आपको फायदा नही हो रहा है, सब जगह घाटा ही घाटा हो रहा है । इसका एक नतीजा यह भी हुआ कि जो छोटे छोटे आदमी हैं उनकी रोजी चली गई है ।

श्री विभूति मिश्र (बगहा) उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं एक बात माननीय सदस्य से पूछना चाहता हू । क्या माननीय सदस्य के जो नेता है, श्री जय प्रकाश नारायण जी, उन्होंने यह मत व्यक्त नही किया है कि राष्ट्रीयकरण नही होना चाहिए ।

श्री खुशवक्त राय हम चाहिए कि जिसमे जनता का हित हो वह चीज हम करे । इसमें किसानो का हित है, मजदूरो का हित है तथा आम जनता का हित निहित है । मेरी समझ मे नही आता है कि सरकार क्यो इस इडस्ट्री का राष्ट्रीयकरण नही करती है । मै नम्रतापूर्वक यह पूछना चाहता हू—

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : इस वक्त आप और कुछ न पूछिये, अपनी ही बात कहिये ।

श्री खुशवक्त राय : मै निवेदन करना चाहता हूं कि काश्तकारों की मुसीबत को दूर करने के लिए, मजदूरो की मुसीबत को दूर करने के लिए इस इडस्ट्री का राष्ट्रीयकरण किया जाना बहुत जरूरी है । मै कहना चाहता हूं कि जिन किसानो का आज कांग्रेस दम भरती है, जिन बैलो का आज वह दम भरती है, उनका इंटिरेस्ट इसी मे है कि इस प्रस्ताव को मान लिया जाए और इसके मुताबिक अम्ल किया जाए और म आशा करता हू कि कांग्रेस की सरकार मेरी इस बात को मान लेगी ।

यादव साहब ने जो एक एमेंडमेंट पेश किया है तथा जिसमे कोआपरेटिव सैक्टर को छूट देने की बात कही गई है, उसको मै स्वीकार करता हूं ।

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I shall now put all the amendments that have been moved to the resolution.

Shri Shree Narayan Das: I would like to withdraw my amendment (No 3).

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Does the hon. Member have leave of the House to withdraw his amendment? I think the House is agreeable

So the leave is given

Shri V. P. Nayar: Sir, there was not even one voice 'yes'.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: In that case I shall put amendment No. 3 to the vote of the House The question is:

'That for the original Resolution, the following be substituted, namely:—

"This House is of opinion that a Committee be appointed to examine the existing working of sugar industry with a view to suggesting whether it is necessary and desirable to nationalise this industry in the national interest."

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I shall put the other amendments.

Shri Jadhav: My amendment No. 1 has been accepted by the Mover.

Shri Khushwaqt Rai: I have accepted his amendment No. 1.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I shall put amendment No. 4 moved by Shri D. R. Chavan.

"That in the Resolution,—

for the word "nationalised" the following be substituted, namely:—

"organised on the co-operative basis." '

The motion was negatived.

Shri Jadhav: . . I withdraw my other amendment (No. 2).

The amendment was, by leave, withdrawn.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I will put first amendment No. 1 because it has also to be put to the vote of the House. It is not enough that the Mover accepts it. The question is:

"That in the resolution,—

after "sugar industry" **insert**

"excepting the industry run by co-operative sector." '

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That House recommends to the Government that the sugar industry be nationalised."

The Lok Sabha divided: Ayes 40; Noes 102.

AYES

Awasthi, Shri
Banerjee, Shri Pramathanath
Banerjee, Shri S.M.
Bhadauria, Shri
Bharucha, Shri Nausher
Braj Raj Singh, Shri
Chakravarty, Shrimati Renu
Chavan, Shri D R.
Dan e, Shr A.
Dasaratha Deb, Shri
Dwivedy, Shri Surendranath
Elias, Shri M.
hosal, Shri
Goundar, Shri Shanmuga
Gupta, Shri Sadhan
Iyer, Shri Easwara
Jadhav, Shri
Kodiyan, Shri
Mahagaonkar, Shri
Manav, Shri
Mohan Swarup, Shri
More, Shri
Mukerjee, Shri H.N.
Nayar, Shri V.P.
Panigrahi, Shri
Parulekar, Shri
Parvathi Krishnan, Shrimati
Prodhan, Shri B C.
Rai, Shri Khushwaqt
Ramam, Shri
Ram Garib, Shri
Rao, Shri D V.
Saksena, Shri S L.
Sharma, Shri H.C.
Siva Raj, Shri
Sonule, Shri H.N.
Sugandhi, Shri
Tangamani, Shri
Warior, Shri
Yadav, Shri

NOES

Achar, Shri
Ajit Singh, Shri
Anjanappa, Shri
Arumugham, Shri R.S.
Arumugham, Shri S.R.
Ayyakannu, Shri
Bajaj, Shri Kamalnayan
Banerji, Dr. R.
Bangshi Thakur, Shri
Barman, Shri
Basappa, Shri
Basumatari, Shri
Bhatkar, Shri
Bhogi Bhai, Shri
Birbal Singh, Shri
Bose, Shri P.C.
Brajeshwar Prasad, Shri
Chaturvedi, Shri
Choudhry, Shri C. L.
Dasappa, Shri
Das, Shri K.K
Das, Shri Shree Narayan
Dasgupta, Shri B.
Datar, Shri
Deb, Shri N M.
Deo, Shri Shanker
Desai, Shri Morarji
Deshmukh, Shri K.G.
Deshmukh, Dr P.S.
Dube, Shri Mulchand
Dublish, Shri
Elayaperumal, Shri
Ganapathy, Shri
Gandhi, Shri Feroze
Ganpati Ram, Shri
Ghosh, Shri M.K.
Hazda, Shri Subodh
Jagjivan Ram, Shri
Jain, Shri A P.
Jain, Shri M C.
Jena, Shri K C.
Jhunjhunwala, Sh.
Jinachandran, Shri
Jyotishi, Pandit J.P.
Kayal, Shri P N.
Khan, Shri Osman Ali
Khuda Bukhsh, Shri M.
Krishnappa, Shri M V.
Krishna Rao, Shri K.V.
Kureel, ri B.N.
Lahiri, Shri
Lal, Shri R S
Laskar, Shri N.C.
Lakshmi Bai, Shrimati
Malliah, Shri U.S.
Mandal, Shri J.
Mandal, Dr. Pashupati

Melkote, Dr.	Ramaswami, Shri S.V.	Shah, Shrimati Jayaben
Mishra, Shri Bibhuti	Ramaswamy, Shri K.S.	Sharma, Shri D.C.
Morarka, Shri	Rane, Shri	Sharma, Shri R.C.
Nallakoya, Shri	Ranga, Shri	Shukla, Shri V.C.
Narasimhan, Shri	Rao, Shri B.M.	Siddiah, Shri
Nayar, Dr. Sushila	Rao, Shri Hanmanth	Singh, Shri D.N.
Nehru, Shrimati Uma	Roy, Shri Bishwanath	Singh, Shri H.P.
Onkar Lal, Shri	Rungsung Suisa, Shri	Sinha, Shri Satya Narayan
Oza, Shri	Sahodrabai, Shrimati	Sonawane, Shri
Pandey, Shri K.N.	Sahu, Shri Rameshwar	Subbarayan, Dr. P.
Panna Lal, Shri	Samanta, Shri S.C.	Sultan, Shrimati Maimoona
Patel, Shrimati Maniben	Samant Sinhar, Dr.	Thirumala Rao, Shri
Pillai, Shri Thanu	Satyabhama Devi, Shrimati	Tiwari, Shri Babu Lal
Prabhakar, Shri Naval	Selku, Shri	Upadhyay, Pandit Munishwar Dut
Rakhmaji, Shri	Sen, Shri P.G.	Varma, Shri B.B.

The Resolution was negatived.

RESOLUTION *RE* APPOINTMENT OF A TRIBUNAL TO REVIEW THE CASE OF DISMISSED GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Shrimati Parvathi Krishnan to move the Resolution.

Shri Tangamani (Madurai): There are certain amendments to the Resolution.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Should they be taken before the Resolution is moved?

Shri Tangamani: I want to know whether these amendments will be taken as moved.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Unless the Resolution is moved, they cannot be considered now.

Shrimati Parvathi Krishnan (Coimbatore): I beg to move:

> "This House is of opinion that a special Tribunal consisting of a High Court Judge as Chairman and two members representing the Government and the workers should be appointed to review the cases of employees whose services were terminated or who were dismissed or who are under indefinite suspension under the Central Civil Services (Safe guarding of National Security) Rules, 1953, Government Servants Conduct Rules and Rule 1708 of Indian Railways Establishment Code."

The rules that are referred to in this Resolution were promulgated as far back as 1949 by the then Governor General Shri C. Rajagopalacnari under the Government of India Act, 1935. Since then, our Constitution has come into force and yet those rules continue as they stood with a few amendments which, according to the hon. Minister Shri Datar, when he spoke on an earlier occasion, were intended to bring them up-to-date. A very strange phrase he used because, in these amendments that have been brought about, the procedure of bringing up-to-date by the ruling party, with its announced goal of a socialist system of society, seems to have been one of decreasing one by one whatever few rights there were with the workers in Government service.

This question of the rules and the necessity and the need to amend the rules and change them so that they are in keeping with the Constitution and with the avowed ambition of our people, has been debated more than once on the floor of this House. Therefore, there will be many who will be asking, particularly Members from the Treasury Benches, what is it that is new that you are asking for today and why is it that this Resolution is being brought forward.

The difference is this. The earlier resolutions referred to the amending

of these rules which we considered very necessary and very urgent. This Resolution deals specifically with those cases of suspension or dismissal or termination of service under those rules and deals specifically with the demand that these cases should be taken up and should be gone into by a competent and impartial authority, and should be disposed of in the shortest possible time.

Shri Rane (Buldana): It was decided that the House should adjourn at 5.30.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Who decided? The House has to decide.

Shrimati Parvathi Krishnan: There was no such decision.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I find that there is some keenness on the part of hon. Members to attend the Ashoka Hotel party. If that is really the pleasure of the House, I have no objection to adjourn the House. Is that the pleasure of the House?

Hon. Members: Yes.

Shrimati Parvathi Krishnan: Am I to understand that my Resolution will be....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: This Resolution is part-discussed. It will be taken up in the next session.

Shrimati Parvathi Krishnan: Then, all right.

Shri Tangamani: What happens to the amendments?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: What can I say about the amendments when the Resolution has not yet been moved?

17-39 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Friday the 13th September, 1957.

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PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE		13524—26

The following papers were laid on the Table:

(1) A copy of each of the following Statements showing the action taken by the Government on various assurances, promises and undertakings given by Ministers during the various

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sessions shown against each: —

(i) Supplementary Statement No. II. — Second Session, 1957 of Second Lok Sabha.

(ii) Supplementary Statement No. III. — First Session, 1957 of Second Lok Sabha.

(iii) Supplementary Statement No. V. — Fifteenth Session, 1957 of First Lok Sabha

(iv) Supplementary Statement No. VI. — Fourteenth Session, 1956 of First Lok Sabha.

(v) Supplementary Statement No. XIII. — Thirteenth Session, 1956 of First Lok Sabha.

(2) A copy of each of the following Notifications, making certain further amendments to the Mineral Concession Rules, 1949:—

(i) S.R.O. 2679, dated the 24th August, 1957.

(ii) S.R.O. 2753, dated the 31st August, 1957.

(3) A copy of the Revised Estimates for the year 1956-57 and Budget Estimates for the year 1957-58 of the Employees' State Insurance Corporation.

(4) A copy of each of the following Notifications, under sub-section (6) of Section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955:—

(i) S.R.O. 1697, dated the 25th May, 1957.

(ii) S.R.O. 1895, dated the 8th June, 1957

(iii) S.R.O. 2366, dated the 20th July, 1957.

(5) A copy of the statement in reply to Half-an-Hour discussion raised on the 31st August, 1957 on the replies given to Starred Question No. 336 on the 25th July, 1957 regarding Medicinal Plants Organisation and Utilisation of Crude Drugs. . . .

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS—LAID ON THE TABLE 13526

Minutes of the First to Fifth Sittings were laid on the Table.

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS— LAID ON THE TABLE . . 13527

Minutes of the First to Ninth sittings were laid on the Table.

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE ON ABSENCE OF MEMBERS— LAID ON THE TABLE . . . 13527

Minutes of the First & Second sittings were laid on the Table.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE OF PRIVILEGES—LAID ON THE TABLE . . 13527

First Report was laid on the Table.

MESSAGE FROM RAJYA SABHA 13527-28

Secretary reported a message from Rajya Sabha that at its sitting held on the 11th September, 1957 Rajya Sabha had passed the Insurance (Amendment) Bill, passed by Lok Sabha on the 4th September, 1957 with amendment and had returned the Bill with the request that the concurrence of Lok Sabha to the amendment be communicated to Rajya Sabha.

BILLS AMENDED BY RAJYA SABHA—LAID ON THE TABLE . . . 13528

Secretary laid on the Table a copy of the Insurance(Amendment) Bill, which had been returned by Rajya Sabha with an amendment.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON SUBORDINATE LEGISLATION PRESENTED 13528

First Report was presented.

REPORT OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE— PRESENTED . . . 13529

First Report was presented.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE . 13529—33

Shrimati Ila Palchoudhri called the attention of the Minister of Food and Agriculture to the drought conditions

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prevailing in various districts of West Bengal, its repercussions on prices of foodstuffs and measure taken to cope with the Situation.

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain) made a statement in regard thereto.

REPORT OF RULES COMMITTEE ADOPTED . 13534—47

The amendment to Rule 272 as recommended by the Rules Committee in its Second Report was adopted.

On a motion moved by Shri Naushir Bharucha, the amendment regarding presentation of credentials by members was referred back to the Rules Committee for further consideration.

BILL PASSED : . . . 13547—87

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah) moved for the consideration of the Forward Contracts (Regulation) Amendment Bill as passed by Rajya Sabha. The Motion was adopted. After clause by clause consideration, the Bill was passed.

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DISCUSSION ON FOOD SITUATION IN WEST BENGAL . . . 13588—13627

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty raised a discussion on the present food situation in West Bengal. The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain) replied to the Debate.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS —ADOPTED . . . 13627

Seventh Report was adopted.

PRIVATE MEMBERS' RESOLUTION NEGATIVED . 13627—67

Further discussion on the resolution regarding the nationalisation of the Sugar Industry concluded On the Resolution Lok Sabha divided; Ayes 40, Noes 102. The Resolution was accordingly negatived.

PRIVATE MEMBER'S RESOLUTION UNDER CONSIDERATION . . 13667—70

Shrimati Parvathi Krishnan moved the resolution regarding the appointment of a Tribunal to review the cases of dismissed Government employees. The discussion was not concluded.

AGENDA FOR FRIDAY, THE 13TH SEPTEMBER, 1957—

Discussion on the motion regarding Second Five Year Plan.